

Israel Cabinet votes to open schools in Arab town

Israeli Cabinet yesterday defied world opinion by voting for a controversial plan to open schools in the heart of Hebron, the Arab town's second largest Arab town. Observers predict serious repercussions both for the Middle East process and for Israeli-American relations, under strain.

Hebron project could upset US links

It came less than two weeks after the Israeli cabinet voted to open schools in the heart of Hebron, the Arab town's second largest Arab town. Observers predict serious repercussions both for the Middle East process and for Israeli-American relations, under strain.

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Doubts over 58 more Constable works

By Geraldine Norman
A new book on John Constable, the great British landscape painter, suggests that 58 paintings, hitherto considered to be by the master, are more likely to be the work of his children.

The fact that several of Constable's children, notably Lionel and Alfred, painted landscapes similar to their father's and that their work has become muddled with his was first revealed two years ago.

The new book, by Mr Robert Hoozee, a Belgian art historian, adds another 58 tentative re-attributions. *L'opera completa di Constable*, published by Rizzoli, an Italian company, is a series aimed at the popular market, with the title *Classici d'Arte*.

Because of its popular format and improbable multinational source, the publication of the book last year seems to have escaped the notice of most Anglo-Saxon scholars, with the exception of Constable specialists.

The reactions of museums whose paintings have been re-attributed to the children have ranged from amazement to a cautious "one scholar did suggest it might be Lionel a year or two ago". Almost no one had seen the book or knew of its publication.

The exception was Leslie Parris, a Constable expert at the Tate Gallery in London. He disagrees with four or five of Mr Hoozee's re-attributions, but in the main agrees that the children are involved. "It needs to be looked at more carefully", he said.

There are two Tate "Constables" for which Mr Hoozee has suggested a reattribution to the children, "Leathes Water" and "Dedham Valley". Details, page 14

Public spending cuts and tax reshuffle may dominate Budget

By David Blake
Economics Editor
Big cuts in public spending and a reshuffling of taxes to help industry are likely to dominate the Budget to be announced on Wednesday by Sir Geoffrey Howe, O.C.

The Chancellor's second Budget is unlikely to contain any significant reduction in income tax for ordinary taxpayers. Instead, he is likely to win his concessions on income tax by raising personal allowances, probably offsetting most of the benefits by scrapping the reduced 25 per cent band on the first £750 of taxable income.

At the same time, he is likely to increase excise duties on drink, tobacco and, most dramatically, petrol, cut taxes on capital transfers and capital gains, and to help manufacturing industry.

Worries about the impact on the retail price index of raising excise duties seem to have persuaded the Government against a straight increase in all duties by the amount needed to take account of inflation.

Instead, they are likely to increase the duty on petrol particularly sharply because this produces much revenue for little impact on the retail price index. Spirits and wine will also be hit, but beer and tobacco are likely to get off more lightly.

Personal tax allowances will be increased to undo some of the effects of inflation which brings more and more people within the taxman's grasp. If the Chancellor decides to scrap the 25 per cent band, as Conservative policy in Opposition suggested, it is likely that those allowances would go up by at least as much as the 17.8 per cent rise implied under the terms of the "Rooker-Wise" index.

The Rooker-Wise provisions mean that personal income tax allowances will be increased automatically to take account of inflation. The Rooker-Wise rules do not apply to the threshold for higher rate taxes, and those will thus not necessarily rise. However, there is expected to be favourable treatment for unearned income and capital gains.

The Chancellor's speech is likely to dwell heavily on the twin problems of rapid price rises and the growing liquidity crisis in industry. Sir Geoffrey seems to have decided to use the proceeds of a new and severe round of public spending cuts to provide extra funds for manufacturing industry.

The most likely option is to cut the national insurance surcharge, which would give immediate relief to companies. It would also be of particular assistance to exporters.

He is also expected to change some of the rules governing the treatment of stock for tax purposes. At minimum, the changes will protect companies whose stocks have run down because of the steel strike.

To raise extra revenue, the Chancellor is likely to tax either oil companies or banks, or possibly both, and he is also expected to take more money off the British Gas Corporation.

The worries about pay increases, running at about 20 per cent a year, mean that the Chancellor will lay heavy stress on the Government's determination to bring down the inflation rate by tough application of limits on money supply. The Government wants to show the country that it is not prepared to live indefinitely with double-figure inflation.

The need to meet money supply limits, coupled with a determination not to let interest rates from their present record level, have persuaded the Chancellor that he must keep public sector borrowing in the coming financial year as far below £9,000m as possible.

Achieving this has not been easy, because the economy is moving into what internal Treasury forecasts predict will be the most severe recession since the Second World War. The forecast to be published on Wednesday will be less pessimistic than internal estimates of a 3½ per cent drop in output this year, but it is likely to show output falling by between 2 and 3 per cent.

Manufacturing industry will take the brunt of the downturn, recording an even sharper drop in output.

Outlook for world weather day is dull

By Kenneth Gossling
In Hereford, Hereford and Hampshire there were hardly any hurricanes yesterday; but in Worcester, Warwickshire and Wiltshire some snow showers were reported. Roads were impassable in parts of mid-Wales and in London it was an average spring day.

It added up to an about normal weather picture for the last week in March. But yesterday had a special significance because March 23 has been declared World Meteorological Day, an event to be celebrated or mourned every year to show the people of the world the sort of service that meteorology can render to economic development.

They were not too aware of it at Bracknell where the Meteorological Office is. "I am afraid the senior forecaster does not know much about it," a voice on the switchboard said.

But the spokesman eventually confirmed that March 23 will, indeed, be a big day in the world weather calendar, focusing attention on mankind's effect on climatic changes on the world's economy.

"For instance," he said, "if it were to become a degree warmer, how would it affect the crops and even how would we build houses?"

Over the past few decades the vulnerability of mankind to climatic variability has increased markedly. The difficulties associated with changes in the climate are among the most important the world community has to tackle.

"For the first time," the spokesman said, "the countries of the world are deciding that it is an important topic and that it does matter to try and understand it."

For those who have given up trying to understand it, the Meteorological Office makes clear that the whole idea of having a special day is to squeeze as much publicity as possible out of the occasion.

Why then Britain needs it. "We tend to feel we are pretty much in the public eye anyway. We do quite a lot of research."

So although some smaller countries intend to stage special exhibitions and announce commemorative stamp issues, surprisingly Britain has not done anything, considering its preoccupation with the climate, we will be keeping our heads down and our umbrellas up, hoping for a fine summer.

Meanwhile, to quote from yesterday's summary: "Visibility was severely reduced on main routes and motorways..."

Back on track
The Golden Arrow, the former express train, is to run again, on the five-mile Keighley to Oxenholme steam railway, in Yorkshire.

Day's strike by print union likely

By Our Labour Editor
Publication of all national and some provincial newspapers is threatened on May 14 by a one-day official strike likely to be decided tomorrow by leaders of the largest printing union, the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades (Sogat).

Mr William Keys, general secretary of Sogat, said last night: "I shall be recommending to our executive that we stop work on the TUC's 'day of action'."

The protest has the backing of an influential committee of the printing union executive and is extremely unlikely to be overturned.

The decision of Sogat leaders, whose members are responsible for packing and delivering all national newspapers, will come on the eve of the TUC General Council's meeting at which a call for May 14 to be converted into a one-day general strike will be discussed.

The only question that seems in doubt is whether the printing union will order a strike of all its 205,000 members for the full 24 hours.

If so, publication of both May 14 and 15 issues of national papers would be affected.

Liverpool dockers call for national stoppage

By R. W. Shakespeare,
Northern Industrial
Correspondent
Moves to call a national dock strike over the "blacking" of steel imports and exports will begin today, after Friday's walk-out by more than 5,000 Liverpool dockers.

The call came from a mass meeting of the Merseyside dockers at Liverpool Stadium yesterday. Significantly, the meeting was attended not only by senior shop stewards representing the Southampton and Hull dockers but also by steel union strike leaders from the North-west and Yorkshire regions.

Liverpool dockers have now been joined by another 1,000 ancillary workers. The stoppage has halted work along the entire Mersey waterfront, with about 30 ships stricken in the port.

The men will hold another mass meeting on Wednesday and say the strike will continue indefinitely.

Today Mr Dennis Kelly, senior convenor at Liverpool, will be seeing national dock officers of the Transport and General Workers' Union in London to pass on the call for a national strike, carried by an overwhelming majority of the 4,000 men who attended yesterday's meeting.

The Southampton stewards will be meeting early today before calling a mass meeting of the dockers there. Similar meetings are likely in other ports.

The moves are being made against the background of an instruction issued by the TGWU last week that dockers should refuse to handle steel shipments either for import or export.

The issue came to a head at Liverpool just before the weekend. A shipment of 300 tons of steel was being loaded on to a vessel bound for India. Half of it was on board when the 100 dockers working the ship said they would load no more.

Enforcement order: Tyne Tube Services, of Blaydon, Tyne and Wear, will ask for an enforcement order in the High Court, today after failing on Saturday to take possession of two trailer loads of imported steel at Hull docks. (Our Hull Correspondent writes.)

Howe attack feared on 'social wage'

By George Clark
Political Correspondent
MPs and politicians are already making their assumptions and planning their response to the Budget.

Mr Ron Hayward, general secretary of the Labour Party, said yesterday that a Budget better off and the poor poorer would prove to be an economic disaster.

He said that Sir Geoffrey Howe's reported intention not to raise child benefit in line with inflation would be a spiteful measure from a rich man's party.

Labour's protests against what will be seen as the Tory attack on "the social wage" bringing greater hostility from the trade unions, are predictable. But there will also be protests from about 40 Conservative backbenchers who believe that the Government will be breaking its pledge to support the family if the child benefit is not increased to take account of inflation.

This would mean that the benefit, now £4 should be increased by more than £1. Sir Brandon Rhys-Williams, Conservative MP for Kensington, one of four Tory MPs who voted against the Government on this issue last week, said yesterday that he thought the Chancellor ought to increase it by £1.25.

But the impression among backbenchers is that the Government is thinking of a 75p increase, and might be pushed to make it £1 if there is strong backbench pressure when the Budget is announced.

Continued on page 2, col 3

Shah of Iran flies unexpectedly to Cairo in air base near Panama City

City, March 23.—The Shah of Iran left Panama in an air force base on the air base near Panama City for a four-month stay in the United States.

Mr Carter's comment and Mr Jordan's trip raised speculation that the Shah's medical care, either in the United States or in an American military hospital outside the country, was the Shah's original purpose for the visit.

After a day of discussions among the President's foreign policy and defence advisers, Mr Carter said yesterday, however, the Administration let it be known that there were no plans for the Shah to come to the United States for his operation. The Administration also appeared to have ruled out his admission to an American military hospital overseas.

The mystery surrounding the Shah's treatment deepened further last night when NBC television news reported that he would leave his temporary home in Panama for an undisclosed destination. NBC said that Administration officials were trying to assure the Iranian authorities that the Shah's impending departure was not an American decision and should not lead to an escalation of the crisis between the two countries.

Dr Kissinger accused Mr Sadeq Oqobzadeh, the Iranian Foreign Minister, said Dr Henry Kissinger, the former United States Secretary of State, was trying to help the Shah to escape extradition by moving from Panama—a move Mr Oqobzadeh said would delay freeing the American hostages.

Benefits fraud staff warned

Social security staff have been told by Mr Reg Prentice, Minister for Social Security, to keep a sense of proportion about the new campaign against fraud. He refers to a document called the Fraud Investigators' Guide, and says that "fraud work must not result in unacceptable treatment of perfectly honest people". Investigators must adhere to the Judges' Rules while interviewing suspects and they must not act as agents provocateurs, the guide says.

Cossiga coalition task
Signor Francesco Cossiga was asked to form Italy's fourth government since 1945. It is believed that he will form a coalition between the Christian Democrats and the Socialists. Such a coalition would, however, have a majority of only 24 deputies.

Oarsmen for Olympics
The Amateur Rowing Association council voted at a special meeting to send a British team to the Olympic Games in Moscow.

Top teacher shortage
The serious shortage of qualified teachers in certain key subjects has again been highlighted by a survey of a quarter of secondary schools in England and Wales.

Bretons angry over failure of oil plan

Anger is growing in Brittany over the French Government's handling of local oil pollution from the wreck of the tanker Tanio. The last from the wreck of the tanker Tanio, Cadix, serious oil spill, prompted the authorities to set up a procedure to deal with future emergencies, but the Bretons believe the system has failed.

'Moderate' Labour group
About 40 "moderate" Labour MPs are to meet tomorrow to establish a group they claim will represent the mainstream of opinion within the party. They aim to counter any impression that the parliamentary party is polarized between the Manifesto group and the Tribune group.

Home loans challenge
The National Westminster Bank is ready to challenge the building societies' dominance of the home loans market. The bank says such a scheme will be launched "as soon as circumstances permit", which could be almost immediately if "corset" restrictions are lifted in the Budget.

Air crash: Two men died when a Cessna 414 crashed without warning during a test flight at Leeds-Bradford airport.

Carter win: President easily defeats Senator Kennedy in Virginia caucuses.

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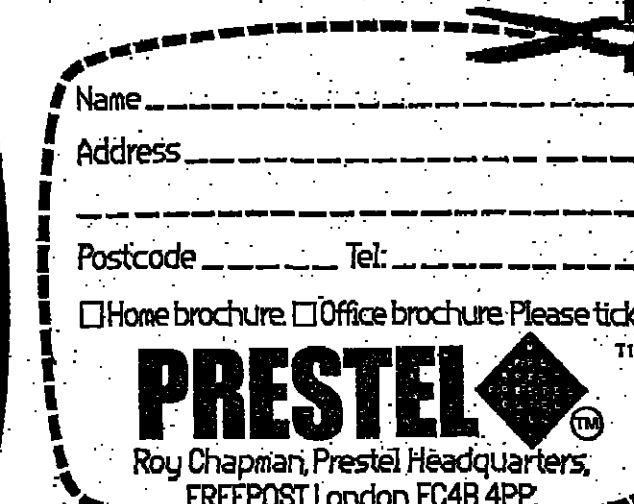
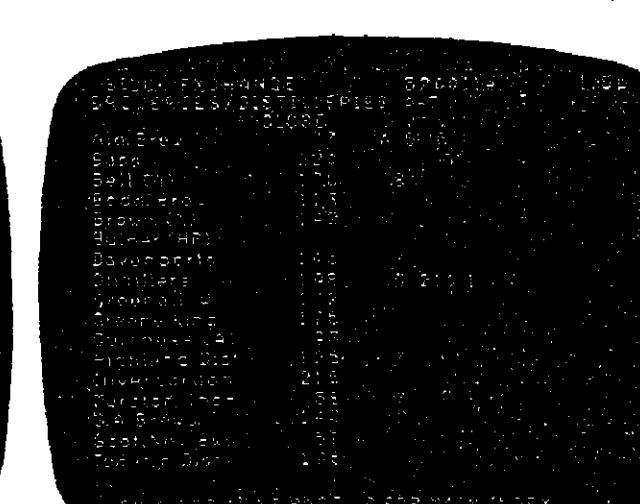
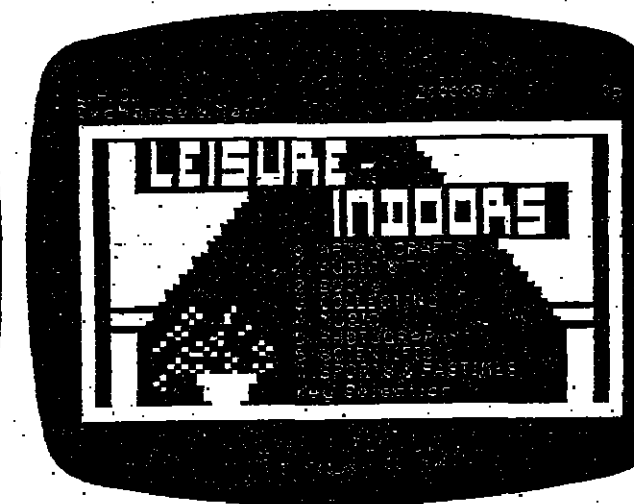
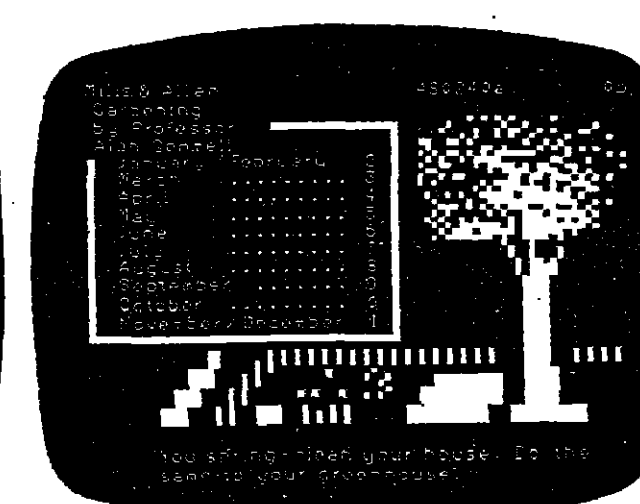
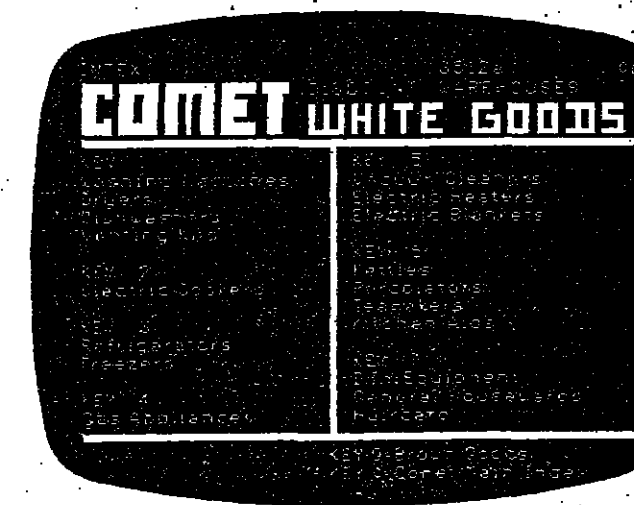
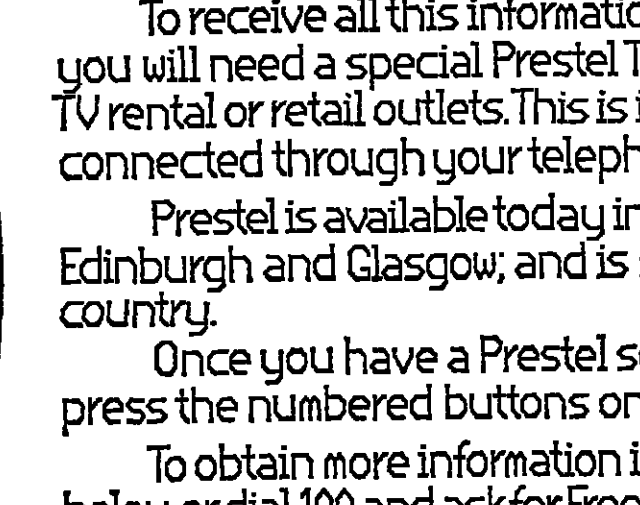
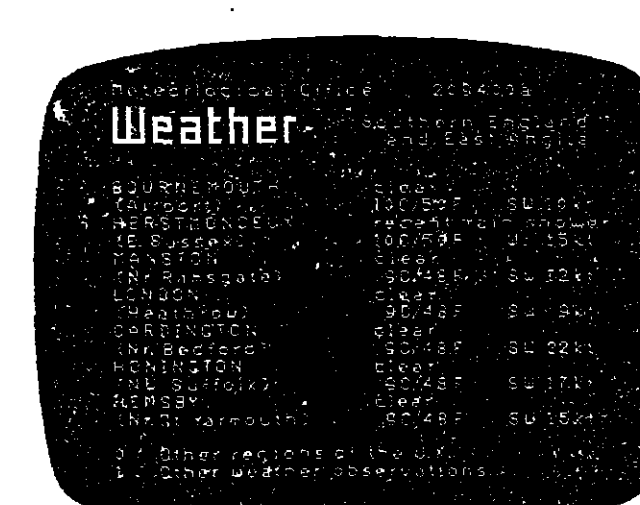
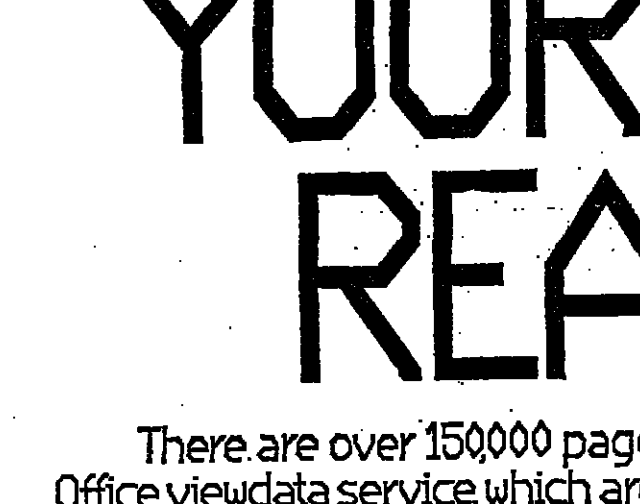
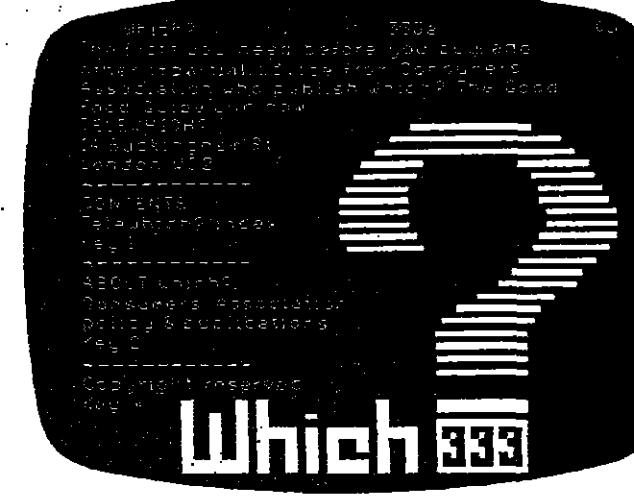
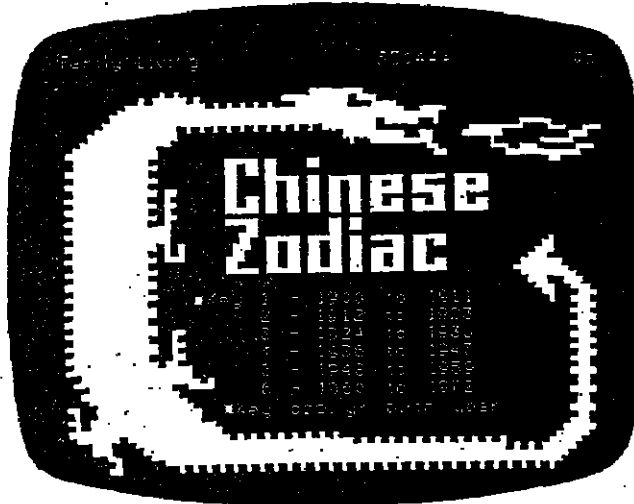
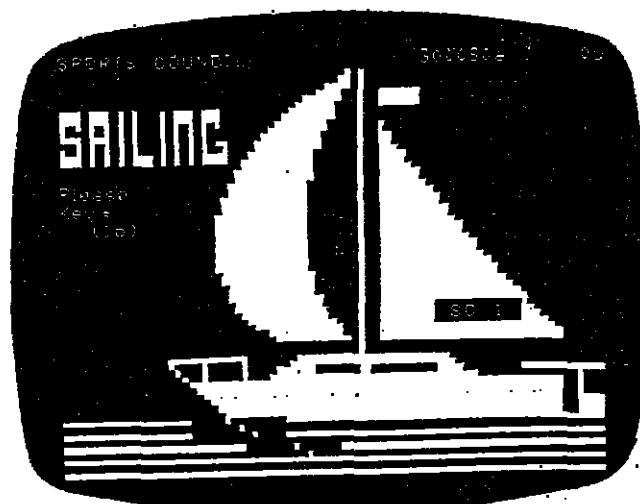
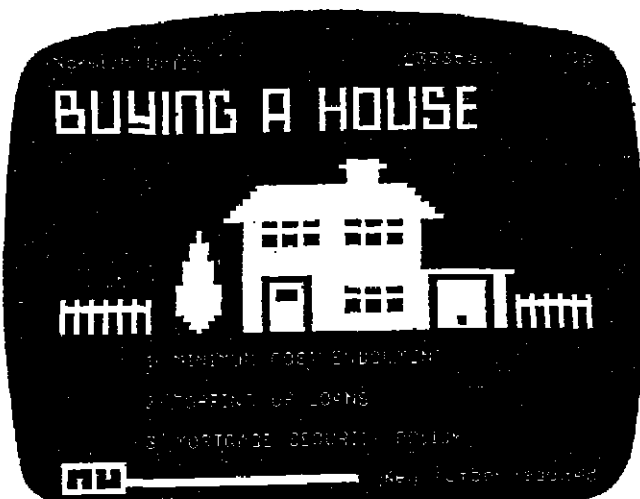
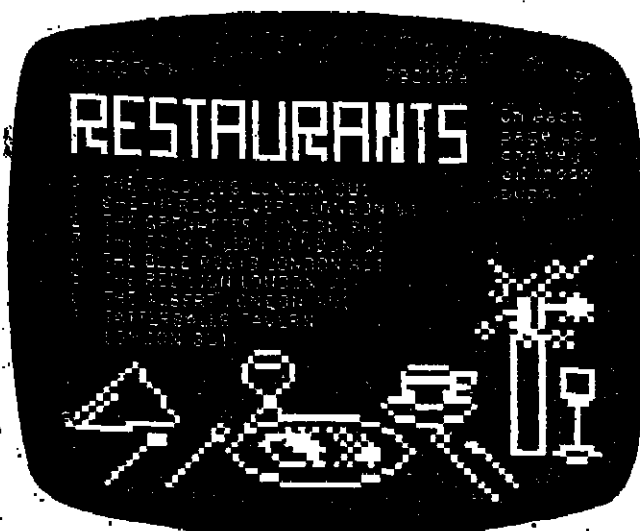
Investment by Sector (as at 5th March)

Energy 22.6%	Miscellaneous 12.5%
Health Care 10.9%	Commodities 12.5%
Technology 14.9%	Entertainment 2.2%
Cyclical Growth 7.6%	Cash 30.2%

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HOME NEWS

Minister in new guidance warns social security fraud staff to avoid offending honest people

By Pat Healy

Social Services Correspondent

Social security staff have been told by Mr Reg Prentice, Minister for Social Security, that they must keep a sense of proportion about his new anti-fraud campaign. In Circular D 26/80, Mr Prentice refers to existing guidance which emphasizes that "fraud work must not result in unacceptable treatment of perfectly honest people".

A copy of the guidance to which Mr Prentice refers has reached the "Fraud Investigators' Guide". It replaces secret codes that have been leaked and criticized as being too harsh.

The change is deliberate, the guide says. Under the heading "A 'guide' not a 'code'", it says: "Fraud work cannot be done by numbers". The guide nevertheless refers newcomers to fraud work for whom it is intended, to a dozen secret codes which, as well as to numerous forms.

Fraud specialists are expected to establish and maintain the "right contacts" with the police, the post office, local authorities and local offices of the Department of Employment, the guide says. If they are not receiving effective cooperation from such contacts, they are advised to seek help from more senior staff.

The guide also makes clear that fraud specialists are expected to act speedily on suspicious cases in order to bring prosecutions under social security, rather than criminal, law. It lists two main advantages:

The burden of proof is more strict under criminal law; spouses can give evidence against each other in prosecutions brought to summary trial under social security law but that is barred under criminal law.

Fraud work is not an optional extra but an integral part of the work of the Department of Health and Social Security, the guide says; but effective results must be achieved in ways consistent with the administration of an important social service.

"Though your work may mean that a high proportion of the people you deal with are cheats, the department has millions of honest claimants", the guide says. "Firm measures against fraud must not result in the unacceptable treatment of perfectly honest people."

The combination required of effective investigation and scrupulously fair methods calls for a continuous sense of balance in a sensitive area of work, the guide says. It adds: "A cheapskate walker can succeed all the time."

Fraud investigators must adhere to the "Judges' Rules" when interviewing suspects, the guide says. They must not act as agents provocateurs.

For example, they may buy an ice cream from a suspect selling them to the general public, but they must not ask for estimates for building work from someone suspected of doing private work on the side.

Evidence must be sought from the suspect's clients.

The department's policy, the guide says, is to prosecute cases of proven fraud wherever appropriate, but local offices

have discretionary powers to close a case.

Those powers cover trivial cases, more serious ones where there is voluntary disclosure or welfare reasons, or where either there is not enough evidence or the fraud would not affect the total amount of benefit payable.

The welfare cases include those where a claimant suffers from a serious mental or physical condition, or nervous trouble, particularly if suicide is mentioned. But the guide later tells the fraud investigator to advise a suspect threatening suicide to keep matters in perspective.

Much of the guide is taken up with tackling the two most common types of fraud: not declaring work while drawing benefit, and a woman drawing benefit while living with a man.

Less space is given to guidance on preventing fraud, although the guide emphasizes that fraud specialists should make their colleagues who pay out benefits aware of the need to watch for particular weaknesses in the system.

Mr Prentice in his letter to staff says that he is determined to make the new anti-fraud campaign a success. He reminds them that fraud work remains a small proportion of the department's work. The 1,000 additional posts for specialist fraud officers is a substantial commitment.

He says that the department's social security staff will employ in 1980-81.

"We are not forgetting that our main function is to see that benefits are paid to those who are properly entitled to them", he writes.

Dilemma on land in Edinburgh

By John Young

Planning Reporter

The future of some 20 acres of vacant land on the fringe of Edinburgh's historic city centre is to be discussed at a public meeting today. It has been called by the local branch of the Civic Trust, known as the Seithill Association, which is anxious to spur the city council into reaching some decisions.

They are one or two adjacent sites, formerly occupied by the Caledonian railway station and goods yard. Although relatively small, compared with the dereliction to be seen in places like Glasgow or Liverpool, it is felt to be a serious blemish on the face of a city that is said to attract more tourists than any other in Britain outside London.

Since the council acquired the land from British Rail, there has been no shortage of suggestions for its use. But, as Mr Charles Prosser, of the Royal Fine Art Commission for Scotland, said: "There are too many ideas and too little money."

Ideally, the city planners would like to see the site, fronting Lothian Road, leased or sold for offices and shops, the proceeds from which could be used to finance new housing on the outer site, on Morrison Street. But the economic recession has depressed the property market and in any case, it is argued, Edinburgh already has an embarrassing amount of empty office space.

So far the only proposal to have met general approval is British Rail's plan for a 400-bedroom extension to the Caledonian Hotel. The Distillers Company is interested in a site nearby for new offices, but Mr Oliver Barratt, secretary of the Clockwork Association, fears that piecemeal development will destroy any chances of creating a unified "streetscape".

In what is one of the best planned cities in Europe, that is a particularly sensitive issue. Moreover, the association believes that piecemeal development on one site and housing on another goes against Edinburgh's tradition of a high residential element in the central area.

Mr Nicholas Fort, the council's director of physical planning, points out that plans for the Lothian Road site are awaiting decisions on the route of a new road and on a possible conference centre.

Higher cigarettes tax urged to cut smoking

By Annette Ferman

Health Services Correspondent

Taxation on cigarettes should be raised each year by more than 10 per cent, in order to reduce smoking and smoking-related diseases, the Conservative Bow Group says in a pamphlet published today.

It suggests ways in which the Government could get better value from the National Health Service as a result of "public anxiety at the effect that spending cuts might have".

Its main recommendations include fluoridation of the water supply, financial incentives for mothers to immunize their children and extend ante-natal clinics, and that foreign nationals should pay to use the health service.

It says that 50,000 premature deaths a year result from smoking-related diseases, such as lung cancer, bronchitis and heart ailments, and suggests that when the voluntary advertising agreement between the Government and the tobacco industry runs out at the end of this month, advertising should be banned in cinemas and in newspapers with a high youth readership.

Fluoridation would reduce tooth decay and benefit health service resources and the welfare of children. The general public has shown no interest in fluoride and most people use fluoridated toothpaste, it says.

Perinatal mortality declined when the rate of attendance at antenatal clinics improved, so the maternity grant should be conditional on early and regular attendance. Similarly, child benefit should be paid in the second six months of a

child's life only if the mother could produce a certificate showing she attended a child welfare clinic.

The pamphlet, which is the Bow Group's submission on the Government's proposals for the National Health Service, criticizes the Government's rejection of the royal commission's proposals that encourage the transfer of the service to the regional health authorities.

That proposal deserved more consideration. "For one thing, it is completely in line with one of the Government's stated objectives - to establish a structure within which decisions can be taken quickly by those who are close to and responsive to the needs of patients."

It favours the abolition of the area health management committees and the use of contract labour and an increase in charges in line with inflation. It opposes, however, new charges in the service (for example, "hotel" charges for in-patients) because "in most cases, the cost of providing these is prohibitive".

Family doctors should have to provide only a daytime commitment (8 am to 8 pm), with the NHS accepting responsibility for an out-of-hours emergency service, prescribing of drugs by their generic names instead of trade names should be encouraged; and discussions should be started with the profession on a compulsory retirement age, it says.

A *Hazlitt* Future, by Dr David Tod and others (Bow Group, 240 Egham, London, WC1V 7DT; £2).

Tubercular risk to children at dental clinic

From Our Correspondent

Nottingham

Tuberculosis was confirmed yesterday in a Nottingham dental clinic worker. Six children treated there have been infected and more than a thousand others are to be examined.

Other children may have been exposed to infection after receiving dental treatment at health centres in the Sneinton and St Ann's districts of Nottingham.

Dr Kenneth Mason, community health officer, said the children at risk were those who had their teeth treated at the clinics between October and December last year.

Chartered body suggested for engineers

By Christopher Warman

Local Government Correspondent

The engineering profession should have a registration council on the lines of the General Medical Council and established under royal charter, the Institution of Municipal Engineers says in a submission to the Government today in response to the report of the Finnisson inquiry.

In its submission the institution rejects the report's proposal for a Government-controlled engineering authority.

It would be a misuse of resources and be very expensive relatively in terms of public funds



A stallholder showing a spaniel puppy to a customer at the Club Row market in east London yesterday. Unlicensed traders stayed away because of a demonstration by about 200 people, mostly women, who shouted at the animal sellers.

'Rhodesian' plan for Ulster urged

By Brian Lenihan

Foreign Affairs Minister in the Irish Republic

Mr Brian Lenihan, Foreign Affairs Minister in the Irish Republic, yesterday urged Britain to withdraw long-standing guarantees to the Ulster Unionists about the future of Northern Ireland.

He said that pledges that Ulster would remain part of the United Kingdom until the majority in the province decided otherwise should be replaced by an Anglo-Irish declaration worked out in negotiations between the two governments.

Mr Lenihan, who was speaking in an Irish radio interview, is to have talks in Dublin soon with Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

His first meeting will mark the first direct ministerial contact on Northern Ireland between London and Dublin since Mr Charles Haughey became Prime Minister of the Republic.

Mr Lenihan confirmed that prospects for eventual Irish unity, the long-term aim of his government, would be high on the agenda at the talks with Mr Atkins.

Mr Lenihan's remarks are certain to prompt bitter criticism from "loyalist" politicians in Northern Ireland. He said that the present position in Ulster amounted to a negative veto for the Unionists.

"The guarantee is a blockage to any relevant discussions and is not acceptable", Mr Lenihan said.

Britain should apply expertise similar to that used in Rhodesia to work out a solution in Ulster. The Irish would be forthcoming in getting down to negotiations.

Terrorist burnt: A man very ill with 80 per cent burns was left outside a hospital in Dundalk, in the Irish Republic, shortly after a bomb attack on a customs post near Newry, Northern Ireland, police said yesterday. They believe a terrorist was severely burnt when a bomb he was planting on Saturday night went off prematurely.

The Provisional IRA claimed responsibility for the attack.

13 poison canisters found in sweep of island beaches

From Our Correspondent

Newport, Isle of Wight

A hovercraft and a team of 300 volunteer firemen, hoteliers and teenagers yesterday found 13 canisters, six of them dangerous, in a search of 65 miles of Isle of Wight beaches for chemicals washed up from two ships.

The sweep was an attempt to protect Easter visitors from any danger from leaking fumes.

Since last November about 1,200 canisters of poison have been washed on to the island's shores. Fumes from 20 of them, containing arsenic trichloride, would have been lethal. Firemen have to put on fumeproof

Phosphate 'mine' found under sea

By Pearce Wright

Science Editor

A new source of phosphate rock has been discovered by an oceanographic research team, which is richer than most of the refined phosphates that form a basic material of the world's fertilizer industry.

The discovery was made on an expedition of the research ship *Shackleton* of the Natural Environment Research Council.

During a survey of the floor of the Atlantic near the Equator a large deposit of phosphatized limestone was discovered. A description of rock and how it came to be formed is the subject of a paper by Dr E. J. W. Jones and Dr D. A. Goddard, geologists at University College London, in the journal *Deep-Sea Research*.

The two geologists are eager to attract the attention of commercial mineral prospectors to this underwater mine, which has economic implications that are not often associated with the location of unusual minerals of academic importance.

Dr Jones said yesterday that economic interest in the ocean floor has focused primarily on the prospects for petroleum along the continental margins and on accumulations of metal oxides and sulphides found recently on volcanically active ridges.

The finds are richer than most material mined from the land deposits, principally in the United States, Morocco and the Soviet Union. The price of phosphate rock has risen at the same rate as the markets in oil.

Using the description adopted for international trade in phosphates, the rocks contain an average of 36 per cent of triphosphate of lime.

Although phosphorites have been reported in other ocean studies, this find is unusual in the size, richness and depth of water of the deposit. It is about 800 metres deep.

Mining operations, such as the recovery of metalliferous

sediments from the Red Sea, are conducted in deeper waters.

The deposit is in the Atlantic above the Equator and about 900 kilometres due west of the Azores. Analyses show masses of rocks ranging from 0.2 to 32 kilograms.

An explanation of the formation in the journal tells of a submerged volcano capped by an immense layer of material. Fossil evidence shows that in early Tertiary time, 50 million years ago, the crest of the volcano called Anhan Seamount lay near the surface.

It supported a thriving coral reef, which grew upwards as the volcano gradually subsided. The reef became greatly enriched in phosphorus from decaying organisms that flourished and died in the vicinity.

An elaborate chemical process incorporated the phosphorus into the reef limestone. The process ended when the circulation pattern of the Atlantic underwent a great change that altered the shape of the huge geological basin containing the volcano.

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Mining operations, such as the recovery of metalliferous

Post Office's mail service 'not value for money'

The Post Office mail service is not providing value for money, three consumer organizations say in a joint-report published yesterday. The service has slipped by 5 per cent over the past 10 years, according to the Mail Users' Association, the Telephone Users' Association and the Association of Telecommunications Users.

The evidence on the Post Office accounts to the Select Committee on Industry and Trade they call for a value-for-money index, combining prices and speed of delivery.

They claim that less information is available about the service than is available about other public utilities. The report, published with quarterly statements giving the main aspects of performance, states that Post Office prospects, which lapsed after 1969, should be reintroduced, they say.

Mr Michael Corby, director of the Mail Users' Association, said: "The Post Office needs to be pressed to produce information which is easier to understand and which gives a more comprehensive guide to performance and plans than is currently available."

"The Post Office hitherto has assured users it would be best if it was left to work out such matters for itself. This approach has not produced the necessary results."

The Post Office said yesterday that it would study the report, to see whether it was saying anything useful. It acknowledged that because of staffing, industrial relations difficulties and other factors last summer the services to customers fell below standard in some places.

"Since then there has been a recovery, and as far as the postal service is concerned the volume of items handled daily is continuing to rise," the Post Office gives customers a good service at a price which will stand comparison with nearly every other country, and we are still striving to improve it."

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Two die in final test of aircraft for UN mission

From Our Correspondent

Leeds

A final flight check ended in the deaths of a young pilot and ground engineer yesterday as they were preparing to fly on a United Nations overseas mission from Leeds-Bradford airport at Yeaman.

In almost perfect flying conditions a Cessna 414 eight-seater aircraft valued at £100,000 spiralled from about 200 feet, hit a tree and exploded into flames.

The aircraft had been painted in the United Nations colours and was due to leave the airport today for a communications and transport role in Pakistan.

Captain Barry Thornhill, aged 23, and Mr Paul Somers, aged 22, both bachelors, took up the aircraft for a check. It was turning into the final approach when, according to eye-witnesses, it spiralled and crashed into a field about a mile from the airport.

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Survey leaves lead-in-petrol issue in the air

By Our Science Editor

A government review of the effect of lead on health, to be published this week, leaves the most controversial aspect of the subject, the removal of lead additives from petrol, unresolved.

The study was arranged by the Department of Health and Social Security, and led by Professor P. J. Lawther, architect of London's clean air legislation.

Evidence has been accumulating over the past decade to suggest that lead is a source of brain damage among infants in urban areas. The report emphasizes that the link between retarded mental development and petrol-lead pollution in cities is difficult to evaluate.

In the absence of absolute confirmation, the working party has suggested more research to be carried out on the removal of lead from water pipes, pins, paint and industrial emissions.

There is no argument about the hazards of lead. It has been known for more than fifty years that it attacks the central nervous system, or is a neurotoxin.

The controversy turns on the evidence suggesting that brain damage affecting intelligence occurs even at subclinical levels of exposure in urban areas subjected to pollution from the exhausts of petrol engines.

A number of studies point to this conclusion, and the most suggestive of these findings is by a group working with Dr H. L. Needleman, of Harvard, who has been examining by the working party.

Dr Michael Butler, a professor of paediatrics in London, has singled out the Needleman work in his contribution to the report. His examination forms the principle scientific analysis of the lead from petrol.

The conclusions of the report based on that information find no immediate need to abolish lead additive in petrol in the absence of incontrovertible proof of the degree of brain damage that might arise from it.

That question is deferred pending the outcome of work to be done in Southampton and Birmingham, supported by the Medical Research Council.

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Concord stirs the sabbath calm

From Ronald Faux

Edinburgh

A roar from the night have added extra-terrestrial to quite a few sons in yesterday morning. New low over the city's sabbath calm and the attention of 20 spectators, the air is landed, and was for miles around.

It was the aircraft's mercurial touchdown. The fact that Concord in the supersonic to been operating for London mattered to the crowds huddled path, carrying tele cameras.

Radio 4 gave a commentary on the on the time the aircraft glittering low pass city the hill tops house airport had an epic western horizon bristles with.

At the airport it was a scene of confusion. By travel agency which a holiday in capital. It remains apron for about half and then to Paris, making a lot over the Atlantic. burst to match 2.

Concorde flew, bough seven year, waved its wings. I been seen there sh

"There was a moment and we were chaotic, as it did

corde alighted, at airport, corded, extra parking space thing went very m

Concorde was a scribe of pipe m drowning that in engines. There we

plaints. One w Cramond, the desi

protests when the at Edinburgh a

aligned with us r she was - delighte

corde would be sh her windows.

One man did co the dreadful di made taking. E off, he complained the 11.40 Trident unspectacular way Concorde had let

skier.

Five gain f points in a crossword

The first regional 1980 Crossword/Thi Crossword Champi determined by 1 place yesterday in and was attended i

penitors. There were fou be solved, and 73 puzzle points bet each one correctly maximum of 124 p was achieved by fi

tors, and their points, reflecting taken.

The winner, with puzzle points and 73 a civil servant, of 1 who has three time qualified for the m

The runner-up, qualified for the as in September, w Davies, a university of mathematics, of scored 69 i points.

Prizes were also p Mrs Lindsay Ramee of Curry Gark Sco (for the third e places), and Mr Strep Leicester, and Mr of Birmingham who maximum puzzle pti and 50 time bot

respectively.

Robbin Cousins, i figure skating gold n, returned to the w for the h bo Bristol on Saturday

A crowd estimate than 10,000 cheerd drove around the in an open bus bo

Mayor, and being with a crystal ball, the city.

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Call for parents to answer for vandalism

From Arthur Osman

Leicester

Parents should be required to answer for the acts of their children in cases of vandalism and anti-social behaviour, a report to be discussed on Wednesday by Leicestershire County Council states.

One of its other main suggestions is that courts should be empowered to make community service orders

ST EUROPE

gnor Cossiga expected to seek iance with Socialists in rming his new Italian Cabinet

John Earle
March 23
President Cossiga today asked
Francesco Cossiga to
Italy's fourth Govern-
ment since the war. A 52-year-old
an Democrat from
in Sardinia, Signor
headed the outgoing
of Christian Demo-
Social Democrats and
s which resigned on
sday.



Signor Cossiga: asked to
succeed himself.

Complex task awaits the
Minister designate, who
begin consulting other
immediately after a
g of the Christian Demo-
crats tomorrow. He
to form an administra-
in advance of a series
important international
ment in June, including
as in Venice of the Euro-
Community Council and
Western world's most
elected nations.

feeling is that he will
form a coalition
n the Christian Demo-
Socialists, who by
wing their racist support
tated the fall of his last
ment but whose central
tee has authorized parti-
s in the next one.
a coalition would have
der majority of 327
303 in the Chamber of
as, and given the pro-
of deputies to cast their
t secret ballots against
ty whip, the govern-
future might not be
for long. Its foundation
be more secure if the

Republican Party would
join, insuring 342 votes against
285 in the combined opposi-
tion.

Such a solution, however,
would arouse the resentment
of the Social Democrats and the
Liberals, both of whom see no
reason for being excluded. But
a coalition of all five is likely
in present conditions to be
opposed by sections of the
Christian Democrats and
Socialists. The only certainty
is that the Communists' demand
for entry into government
stands no chance of acceptance.
President Cossiga has spent
less time than his predecessors
in the ritual of consultations
before selecting a new Prime

Minister. It was clear from the
outset that the Christian Demo-
crats' preference was for Signor
Cossiga to succeed himself.

In some ways this political
crisis has thrown into greater
relief the vacuum of govern-
ment and a tendency of other
forces to move into that vacuum.
A more directly political role
has been played by both the
President of the Republic and
by the trade unions.

The 82-year-old President has
borne the brunt of taking
decisions to restore the morale
of the judiciary, shaken by the
assassination by terrorists of
three magistrates in four days.
He has held a series of meetings
with outgoing ministers, repre-
sentatives of the judiciary, and
the heads of security.

The secretaries of the three
big trade union confederations
have been skirmishing with
Signor Cossiga and won. He
wrote them when he resigned
that all negotiations affecting
public employees should be
considered suspended until a
new government was formed.

The unions replied by tele-
gram that they refused to
accept this and also sent a
letter to the political parties
outlining their priorities for
the problems facing the next
government.

Signor Cossiga had to retreat
and in a second letter to them
admit that negotiations of a
"technical nature" were pos-
sible during the governmental
crisis. In consequence, talks
will resume this week on a con-
tract for local government
employees.

Legal risks in holding back EEC payments

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

The question whether Britain
could withhold payment to the
EEC budget, as Mrs Margaret
Thatcher has said might be
necessary if no other way is
found of reducing the British
contribution, is receiving close
attention from legal experts.

Apart from the risk that it
might be illegal under Com-
munity law, it also raises ques-
tions of British law. It could
conceivably be open to private
citizens to bring an action
against the Government.

It is emphasized in Whitehall
that British policy remains to
work for a negotiated solution,
and that the Government in-
tends to continue on this course
with all the diplomatic skill and
political pressure it can muster.
At the same time, the Prime
Minister has indicated that if
all else fails, consideration will
be given to holding back the
value added tax (VAT) element
in the budget contribution,
which is set annually at up to
1 per cent of VAT receipts.

The budget payments come
under a decision of the original
Six members of the Community
made in 1970, known as the
budget treaty. It became part
of British law under the Euro-
pean Communities Act, when
Britain joined the EEC in 1973.

The payments are fixed for
each year according to the
revenue needs of the Com-
munity. Under the Commis-
sion's revised draft budget for
the current year, the VAT
element has been set at 0.68
per cent.



Face in the crowd: The Pope at Castel Santa
Maria in central Italy yesterday. The town was
devastated by an earthquake last year.

Firm Giscard stand on farm prices

From Ian Murray
Paris, March 23

President Giscard d'Estaing
today reaffirmed his intention
to fight to support French
farmers at the forthcoming
Brussels summit. He made it
clear that he viewed any pro-
posals to freeze prices as "un-
realistic and unacceptable".

The President was in Lyons
to open the fair there with M
Raymond Barre, the Prime
Minister, who was elected to a
Lyons seat in the legislative
election.

He said France had to strive
to become independent in
energy supply, develop ad-
vanced industries, improve the
levels of technical education for
the young and the workers, and
above all to exploit its only
"raw material"—agriculture.

Because of the importance of
agriculture, the President went
on, it was essential to make
the most of what it could pro-
duce to improve the French
economy. The Brussels propo-
sals were not acceptable be-
cause of the increase in agri-
cultural costs and industrial
prices.

The President's chief con-
cern, however, seemed to be
that domestic politics had
created a situation in which the
leaders of the four main politi-
cal groups refused to speak
to each other. Within the oppo-
sition, the Socialists and Com-
munists were at daggers drawn,
while within the government
coalition the Gaullists were
constantly attacking govern-
ment policies.

The argument with the
Gaullists was one of the main
points raised by M Jean
Lecanuet, president of the pro-

Giscard Union pour la Demo-
cratie Française, at the group's
weekend conference in Orleans.
He told the 2,500 delegates that
he hoped that the Gaullists
would not attack their candidate
so strongly before the presiden-
tial election but it would make
things difficult afterwards.

The conference showed that
despite various tendencies in-
side the grouping, the delegates
all supported the President's
policies. They were urged to
become a real political machine
to secure the election of their
candidate at next year's presi-
dential election.

President Giscard d'Estaing
has not yet announced his can-
didature, but in his speech
today in Lyons he seemed
again to be planning for a long
political future. He said that he
stood for the "just centre"
which was not a neutral line but
"a line of peace and under-
standing to follow with much
care in these tempestuous
times." It was a line, he said,
which attracted twice as many
critics as any other.

The UDP conference, which is
the last the group will hold
before the presidential election,
seemed to echo these words in
approving the need for a central
force.

Police protection: Hundreds of
anti-riot police were on hand
as President Giscard d'Estaing
opened the Lyons Industrial
Fair.

The police were called
chiefly to hold off an angry
crowd of 1,000 leather-clad
motorcyclists from all over
France, who were protesting
against the recent increase in
licence fees for two-wheeled
vehicles.

entment in Brittany over oil spills

w lessons learnt om Amoco Cadiz

an Murray
March 23
message on the car
is bitter: "Tard
advised tomorrow." The
ung on the telegraph
re angry: "Brittany is
dubious." The white-
rocks on the green hill-
out a more optimistic
We shall win. Plogoff

e moment everybody in
seems to be sign writ-
is part of the massive
ement against the
t thick, stinking oil has
shore along the coasts
nd as part of the deep
at plans to build a
power station on the
equivalent of Land's
e Pointe du Raz.

can be nowhere quite
ral Brittany at the
for gazing into the
mentally unacceptable
the energy crisis.
makes it worse to the
is that, as far as they
l, the powers that be
not seem to care. As
don sees it the oil was
to come ashore because
vernment was not pre-
o spend the money to
As the Breton sees it
note Pointe du Raz was
as a nuclear site be-
was about as far away
aris as it is possible to

almost exactly two years
to Amoco Cadiz ground
e rocks off Porsall at
th-western tip of Brit-
reering 230,000 tons of
to be swept to sea or
ke beaches.

s and remains the worst
of its kind and the
Government, seeking to
t benefit from the les-
the affair, drew up a
plan to deal with any
similar emergency. Part
plan was prevention and
progress has been made
cing the shipping lanes
f Ushant, forcing ships
a longer, safer route
the coast. Part of the
oo, was stop oil coming
in the event of the worst
ing.

Navy has a crucial role in
ensive plan. Ironically
month's issue of the
defence magazine,
s, there is a special
emphasizing how well
d the Navy is to combat
ure "black tides".
cture of a filthy, greasy
y beach accompanies the
with the headline in
a large type: "Never

picture was taken after
oco Cadiz went down,
could quite easily have
aken this week on the

lovely beaches, tar-covered after
the Tario broke in two in the
Channel storms on March 7.
This time there is no question
of having been a naviga-
tional error. The 22-year-old
ship just broke in two.

Officially there was from the
start little danger of large scale
pollution. The bulk of the oil
was trapped in the broken tan-
ker's holds and what little had
escaped was said to be unlikely
to reach the coasts.

The bad weather certainly
made it difficult for the Navy
to break up the slicks that did
appear, but in the final analysis
it looks as though they were ill
equipped to deal with the oil.

The oil was so thick it had to
be kept heated to 50° C in
order that it could be pumped.
Once into the cold waters of the
Channel it set into a thick coat,
which was impervious to the
only available dispersant chemi-
cals and on which the Navy was
advised to use—lay in useless
drifts.

So the oil came ashore. But
when it did there was a long
delay before the land part of
the protection plan was
authorized by the Prefecture. In
consequence the resources avail-
able were minimal when most
needed.

The reasons for the delay
seem twofold. For one reason
launching the plan costs a lot
of money to the State. More
importantly it attracts the sort
of bad publicity that a tourist
region like Brittany, which
relies so heavily on its coastline
to bring in visitors, can well do
without.

The tardiness of the authori-
ties coupled with fury at the
fact that the much vaunted pre-
vention plan had failed to work
has caused deep resentment in
Brittany.

Last week five dustbins full
of Tario oil scooped from the
Brittany beaches were dumped
on the pavement outside the
Elysee Palace.

It also represents a protest
at the fact that none of the
12 ministers involved in the
protection plan had visited the
area to see what things were
like. If the Government would
not come to the oil, then the
oil would go to the Govern-
ment.

The wreck of the Tario
prompted M Aymar Achille-
Fouatier, president of the
Interministerial Sea Mission,
to repeat once again the French
argument that, as most of the
500 million tons of oil needed
by Europe are shipped round
the Brittany coast, then
countries importing the oil
should contribute to the cost
of cleaning up the beaches.

Any postponement would also
put back the date of the pre-
paratory meeting for the con-
ference, which was to have
taken place here on September
11.

The Spanish Government is
reported to be anxious to avoid
a confrontation between the
United States and the Soviet
Union, as that which
occurred in Belgrade after the
apparent easing of international
tension at the Helsinki confer-
ence.

curity conference may postponed by Spain

Harry Deebelius
March 23

is considering postpon-
European security con-
ference which was to have been
next autumn, the in-
dependent Madrid daily El
reported today.

postponement of the con-
ference, a sequel to the Hel-
sinki conference at which
rights was an important
was suggested un-
officially earlier this month by
officials. Doubts about
effectiveness were voiced
that by diplomats of
s countries.

newspaper reported that
Marcelina Oreja, the
h Foreign Minister, will
the matter at the meet-
ing of the Council of Europe
ril 9 in Lisbon.

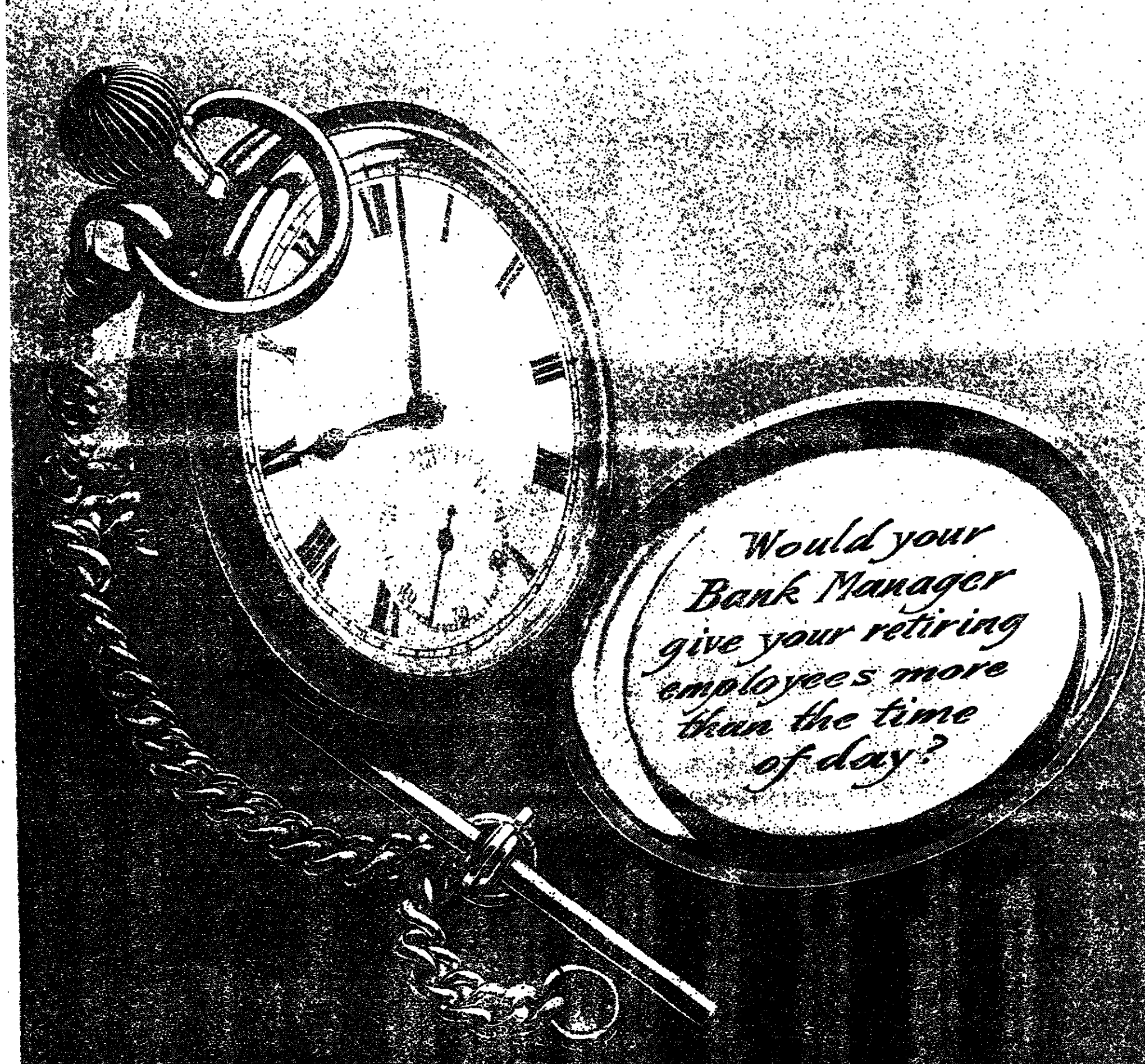
possibility of a delay is
sult of international ten-

sion and events in Iran and
Afghanistan.

A decision to hold the con-
ference even a few months after
the scheduled date of Novem-
ber 22 would make it possible
for the United States to take a
firm stance on the issues that
arise, because there the presi-
dential elections in November
for the Administration to for-
mulate policies.

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put back the date of the pre-
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apparent easing of international
tension at the Helsinki confer-
ence.



These days, many people running their
own businesses would like to give retiring
employees a bit more than a gold watch.

But assuming that's how you feel, you
wouldn't really expect your bank manager
to look after them for you.

And you'd be wrong.

Because if he's a Midland Bank
manager, he could. You see, you really can
expect the unexpected from the Midland.

Your Midland manager has at his
disposal a team of specialist companies and
services which can, between them, help
you to cope with all sorts of business needs.

In this case, he could put you in touch
with a Midland Bank Group company,
which could give you specialist indepen-
dent advice on pension schemes and help
you set up the one that suits you. And even
give advice on pension legislation.

So you'll feel you're doing well by your
staff, and you'll probably find they're a
good deal happier about working for you.

Start thinking of your Midland
manager and his team as the people to
deal with your business needs. Because
thanks to teamwork, we can help you
with things you'd never expect.

You can expect the unexpected from Midland teamwork



Midland Bank



BUSINESS SERVICES

Abey Promotions Ltd. (Sales Prom. merch), P.O. Box 25, Harford 51002.
1-2-3 Express Typing Services, 67-69 Chancery Lane, W.C.2, 01-462 8479.
AGM Ltd, 01-570 8311. Prototypes. General model making, P. U. Posen.
Cash Registers & Sales, Bush and Hall, Theobalds Road, W.C.1, 01-242 7185.
C.C.M. for Ltd. Companies, 1 Athol St, Douglas, 10M, U.K. Representative:
01-228 2180. Telex service in 10 languages. 01-481 7831.
Countryside Interiors, Express motorcycles, vans, weekly foot messenger hire.
Inf. Freight, Pika, pots, Red Star Services, 01-488 9141.
Detachable Messengers and Vans, 951 2222. Car hire, 955 8888.
Express Co. Regd. Ltd. for limited Co's, 30 City Road, E.C.1, 025 5434/5.
01-361 5361.
Flatley Advertising Partnership Ltd., 30 Gordon St, London WC1H 0AX.
01-397 0252.
Green Barbour Ltd. Electric services and sales. Try us. 01-693 9855.
IBM/Authorware, Artwork, Printing, Mailing, Red Tape. 01-488 2279.
Image Masters Ltd. Product, PR/Press, Conf. London W.1, 01-734 052/4.
Interview Video Limited, Video Films, Rentals and Sales, 01-727 1453.
Investment Bulletin, For details of trial offer ring 01-728 5045.
Landscape (Word Proc), Essex 84134. Personalised letters, issues, reports, etc.
Office Planning Design & Print Services, C.E. Planning, 588 8220.
P.D.G. Office Decorating, Commercial Painting Specialists, Tel. 073 120 450.
Rare Books bought/sold, G. W. Traylen, 49/50 Quarry St, Guildford GU2 4AA.
Visual Marcom Systems, Audio visual and copying products, 01-893 9445.

AIR CONDITIONING, HEATING & OIL DISTRIBUTORS
Air Conditioning Centre, Supply, delivery, install, 01-488 0841.
H. Page & Sons, The complete air conditioning system, free design and estimate, 01-407 6701.
Mayfair Air Conditioning—SEC Air conditioners, 01-289 1745/01-289 4560.
Qualitec (Air-conditioning) Ltd. Manual air cond. equip, 0785 75491.
Technicon Consultancy—Expert air conditioning surveys, 01-488 0744.

ADVERTISING SERVICES, DESIGN, PRINT & GRAPHICS
Complete Design & Print Service for smaller firms, 01-466 3341.
Designs Business Ltd., 45 Davies St, London W.1, 01-437 0088.
Media Art & Print Advertising Consultants, 01-734 0832.
Survey Graphics Ltd., Vincent Walk, Dorking, Surrey (S170) 02031 4933.
Wendell Gifford, Fine Art Picture Frames an dealers, W.1, 01-590 8584.

BUSINESS TRAVEL
Avis, U.S.A., Canada & S. America experts, 01-486 3305 (A.B.T.A.).
Western Car Rental Services, M.E. Visa and legalisation 01-221 6862/3.

CLEANING
Belgrave Cleaning Co. Ltd., 66 Charlotte St, WIP 1LR, 01-636 1311.
Nobles Cleaning Organisation Ltd., Kings Cross, 01-593 8321. Telex 91217.
Titus Ltd., Victoria Road, 2/6 Goodwood Rd., Ilford, 01-597 0036/7/8. Tlx. 895 1408.

COMPUTING SERVICES
Accounts, Payrolls, Stocks, Men Payroll Service, 01-237 2976.
Brite (IC) International, A Computer Service, Nationwide, 01-690 1414.
Pace Services Ltd., Waga Preparation for smaller businesses, 01-399 0185.
Payroll and Sales Accounting, etc? Phone Tynon on 01-680 2323.
The National Computing Centre Ltd., Oxford Road, Manchester M1 7ED.
01-228 6333.

Freight Forwarding & Shipping
Hauls Ltd.—We care worldwide—shipping division—01-676 7876.
Lynn Ferries Ltd., Alexandra Dock, King's Cross, 01-593 8321. Telex 91217.
Titus Ltd., Victoria Road, 2/6 Goodwood Rd., Ilford, 01-597 0036/7/8. Tlx. 895 1408.

OFFICE EQUIPMENT
Black Arrow, Complete office furnishing and partitions, 01-572 7203.
Bostonside Ben. Wren, 45 Davies St, London W.1, 01-437 0088.
BOSUP Group, Stationery, Print, Furniture, Machines, 01-480 8871.
S. Margolis & Sons, 63/65 Oxford St, W.C.1, 01-336 9812.

PLANT & EQUIPMENT
Equipwale Ltd., new generating sets, Tel. Newark 71221. Tlx. 371722.
Exporters of Caterpillar Machinery, Saccos Enterprises Ltd., Farnham Road, Bishop's Cleeve, Herts, Tel. (0278) 54484/54241. Tlx. 81488.

PORTABLE BUILDINGS
Millwrights & Millwrights Buildings, Theford 910713. Telex 817821.
Roucaire Instant Buildings, Sale/hire, nationwide, Ring 06515 2560/2565.

PRINTING, PHOTOCOPYING & DUPLICATING
BML Photocopying, Sales/Supplies/Service, Gerrards Cross 87347.
Closest to Oxford County, Red Tape, 2 Princes St, W.1, 01-483 2379.
Immediacy Print Centres are all over London for reports, manuals, urgent printing, photocopies, Phone for your nearest centre, 01-251 4181.
Kalkbank Printing, 01-541 3322 nationwide for your nearest print and copy centre.
P.D.C. Copyprint, Wigmore Street, 935 0379. Fenchurch Street, 626 2923.
Swiftprint, 156 Camden Hill Road, W.8, 01-727 2728.
Typesetters and Designers, Surrey Graphics Ltd., Vincent Walk, Dorking 01-488 0744.

SECURITY SERVICES
Barrs Bros. (Security Services), 122 Strand Street, W.2, 01-734 1001.
B. Hatz, M.L.A., M.L.I., Locksmith, All types of security, supplied or fitted, 45, Weymouth 27189.
Centenary Security Ltd., 10/20 Union Rd., Clapham, S.W.4, 01-240 4664.
Photo-sec Identification Ltd., Station Ave., Walton-on-Thames, Surrey KT12 1SB. Tel. 20461-4. Telex 323888.
Property Guards Ltd., London and Nationwide, 01-987 2453.

SIGN SERVICES
Alpha Signs Ltd., Maintenance/Purchase/Rent/Export, 01-381 0986/8.
Laford Signs, Complete service in visual communication, 01-599 8111.
Laford Signs, Sign writers, gliders, engravers, 723 5145, 724 3255.
Sign Signs, Engraving Illuminated & Plastic Signs Designers, 472 8233.

TELEX, DIRECT MAIL & ANSWERING MACHINE SERVICES
Donovans—Expert in specialist Direct Mail, 01-254 5344.
ROBOphone systems do more than answer phones, Tel. 01-688 6882 for PHONEDATE Ltd., American Telephone Answerers Plus, 01-431 0266.

TRANSLATION SERVICE
Allanquay Ltd., 01-452 2851. General, Technical & Interpreting.
Central Translations (W.1), All languages/subjects, 453 5511/498 7370.
Formal Translations Ltd., Garrards Cross, Bucks, Tel. 07241.
Taithe House, Arabic Translation Specialists, 01-437 9137/8.
Tokyo Translation, 0689 40281. Quality Japanese trans. and interpreting.

VENDING

Bourne End Vending (Sales) Limited, Westcott Road, Bourne End, Buckinghamshire, Tel. Bourne End (02925) 22844.
Bourne End Vending (Sales) Limited, Westcott Road, Bourne End, Buckinghamshire, Tel. Bourne End (02925) 22844.
G.M. Vendors (UK Ltd.) Sales/Service, Nationwide distrib. 0753 72243.

HOME & PERSONAL SERVICES

Albany Linens Discount Store, USA Household Linens, 48 George St, W.1, 487 4105.
Beach 400 Nursing Homes, 47 Beach Hill, Hadley Wood, 01-448 4181.
Fodyssey Nursing Home, 38 Wells Ave., Rochester, Kent, (0684) 431253/402027.
Gardens of the West, Sussex, RH1 0PC, Crawley (0293) 33411. Telex 67287. Famous for its home-made soups and love nuns.
Orthopaedic Footwear Co. Ltd. Made to measure, 4 Paddington St, W.1, 01-635 6140.

BATHROOMS & EQUIPMENT
Aston Matthews, 143 Essex Road, N.1, 01-225 3857, rate Prices.
Beach 400 Nursing Homes, 47 Beach Hill, Hadley Wood, 01-448 4181.
Fodyssey Nursing Home, 38 Wells Ave., Rochester, Kent, (0684) 431253/402027.

CHARITABLE & BENEVOLENT ORGANISATIONS
NSA (Nursing Health Insurance), 30 Lancaster Gate, W.2, Tel. 01-723 3601.
Nursing Health Insurance, 30 Lancaster Gate, W.2, Tel. 01-723 3601.
Nursing Health Insurance, 30 Lancaster Gate, W.2, Tel. 01-723 3601.

CLOTHES CARE
Jewels of Belgrade, 10 Post St, S.W.1, 01-235 1101. Hand finished dry cleaning valuing, handover and shoe mending.
Curtains & Upholstery Cleaners
Curtains & Upholstery Cleaners, 1 Lifford Place, London W.10, 01-590 3954.
Pierette Payne & Co. Ltd., Lifford Place, London W.10, 01-590 3954.
Systematic Care Ltd., Specialist carpet, curtain & upholstery care, 252 6008.

FURNISHINGS
Trade Direct Discount Furn. Centre, 209 Hackney Rd, 01-728 5125.
Interior & Exterior
Beyrle (Wholesale) Ltd. Fabric and wallcovering specialists, 852 4237.
Castelino Muebles & Tiles, of Barnes, 84 Church Rd, S.W.13, Tiles & tile Diagonals, 01-873 7723.
Rooftop Ltd. Slate roof specialists, London & S. of England, 04207 800.

KITCHENS AND EQUIPMENT
Kitchens Etcetera, fit. mt. spec., 58 Revelstoke Road, S.W.18, 01-846 3855.
Oriental Carpets & Rugs
Persian Carpet Gallery, 24 Chertsey St, Guildford, Surrey, 0483 50577.
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PHOTOGRAPHS
P. Humphrey Photo Ltd. Drive-in studio/colour processing, 01-583 0822.
Pianos
Samuel Jacques Pianos, finest selection, sale and hire, 01-723 8818.

PICTURE FRAMES
Accolade Zella, 2 Park Walk, S.W.10, 7 day week till 8, 351 0532.
Caher Gallery, Trade and private picture in London area, Essex 87784.
Green & Stone (Chelsea), 352 6521, restorers, gliders, carvers.
John Campbell—London's widest range, 104 Walton St, S.W.3, 534 6258.
John Tancus hand-made and restored picture frames, sliding, 735 7899.
Pigeonhole, Fine framing and specialised mounting in Chelsea, 352 2577.

SPORTS & LEISURE WORLD
Superb Tennis Courts at sensible prices, Andrew Baird T. C. Ltd. Oldham 2290.
Top Quality Tennis Courts & Restrooming, by Nulton Lodge, 01-778 8884.

SWIMMING POOLS
APS Pool Supplies, Heat pumps, pools covers, Somerset, Salisbury 23385.
Champion Swimming Pools, UK installations and export sales, 32 5155.
Happy Swims Pool Market, Also spas, tubs, 88 Lots Road, S.W.10, 332 7823.
Pencelot Swimming Pools, Baker's Lane, Galleyswood, Chelmsford, Essex, 0277 540711.
Rainbow Swimming pools, Jacuzzis, hot tubs and spa baths, 01-720 7181.

WINE & DINE
Arts & Crafts, Restaurants, 51-52 Poland Street, London W.1, Telephone 01-437 6357/6306.

RECRUITMENT SERVICES
Advertising Agencies
Campbell-Johnson Recruit. Adv. Ltd., 35 New Broad St, E.C.2, 588 8888.
01-437 6357/6306.

AGENCIES
Adpower Ranked Staff Consultants (Appointments in Advertising, Public Relations & Marketing), 71 New Broad St, London W.1, 453 6456.
Annie Palfrey Agency, For top secretarial, 01-589 5225.
Cantamom Staff Ltd, 837 6525 W.8, 835 2575 W.C.2, 734 2584 W.1.
Charles Luskley Recruitment Consultants, 212 3711 414.
Charmel Personnel, 825 8035. Exclusive total recruitment service.
Crown Cofit & Associates Limited, Permanent or temporary secretarial services, 01-487 1126 (West End) 01-628 4876 (City).
Executive Recruiters, Int'l confidential newsletter, 0626 33263.
Hart Grading Agency, Extraordinary jobs, Extraordinary people, 01-734 8844.
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SPORT

Football

Forest should be the last team to fear pitfalls of foreign soil

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

Ajax, who have played in four European Cup finals, winning three in succession in the early 70s, and have scored 30 goals in their six games in this season's competition, will be Nottingham Forest's most potent opponents in the semi-final round at the City Ground on April 9 and in Amsterdam on April 23. In arguably the most attractive-sounding group of four to meet since 1976, Forest, despite being the holders and resilient survivors of last week's tie against Dynamo Berlin, may find this year's semi-final as demanding as last season's against Cologne.

Ajax, still inspired by the fine Dutch international, Krol, and with some interesting fresh blood, have virtually stolen into the last four with a series of victories. In a goalless draw in France, perhaps it would be as well if Forest looked further back to last season's UEFA Cup in which Ajax were knocked out in the third round by a comparatively modest Hovved team.

The draw, made in Zurich on Saturday, ensured that at least one Englishman would appear in the final because Real Madrid, who are currently getting the best of Cummings' skills, and Hamburg, who have had their money's worth from Keegan, are paired in the semi-final. Keegan's reaction was that if they knocked out Real, the Spanish supporters would take their place in the final.

Should Hamburg fail to beat Real Madrid, Forest could find themselves in the most difficult final that the permutations allow. Peter Taylor, their assistant manager, said that if they were to have been better to play Real at home and away basis in the semi-final than in a single match final at the Bernabeu Stadium, but Forest have a good record in away games in the two seasons of European Cup competition, they should be the last to fear the pitfalls of foreign soil.

European semi-final round draws

European Cup
Nottingham Forest v Ajax, Real Madrid
Hamburg.

Cup Winners' Cup
Nantes v Valencia, Arsenal v Juventus.

Top of the table tedium as Walsall keep on course

By John Nicholls

Portsmouth looked shattered, yet only two minutes after the interval they were back in contention. Hemmerman capped in this was for much of the first half a tedious game for the spectators. No doubt Walsall will be pleased at going further ahead at the top of the division than they were at the top of the table at Huddersfield Town, while Portsmouth have only themselves to blame for not making more of their chances. In front of a crowd of 10,000, the action was restricted to throw-ins and free kicks. After half an hour, however, Walsall pulled themselves together and began to make some progress towards the Portsmouth goal. A series of corners kept Portsmouth at full stretch and Walsall were able to move extra players into attack. Yet there seemed no immediate danger when Macken, the right back, joined in the exchange. He was marshalled across the face of the goal by several defenders, but he took everyone by surprise when he suddenly sprang forward and unleashed a powerful shot that beat Knight. Walsall made their scored again minutes later when the speedy Ross outstripped every one through the middle, but allowed Knight to pluck the ball off his toes when Penn was unmarked alongside him.

Hampden improving

Prospects have improved for Scotland's European championship match against Portugal at Hampden Park on Wednesday. A week of bad weather had put the match, which was postponed on February 6, in doubt, but the Scottish Football Association have told the Portuguese party to travel to Glasgow after a marked improvement in the weather.

Weekend results and tables

First division									
Arsenal	1	Crystal Palace	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Aston Villa	2	Leeds	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Derby	3	Sheff Wed	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Liverpool	4	Sheff Sat	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Manchester U	5	Sheff Utd	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Norwich	6	Sheff Utd	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Nottingham F	7	Sheff Utd	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Sheff Wed	8	Sheff Utd	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Sheff Sat	9	Sheff Utd	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Sheff Utd	10	Sheff Utd	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Sheff Utd	11	Sheff Utd	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Sheff Utd	12	Sheff Utd	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Sheff Utd	13	Sheff Utd	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
Sheff Utd	14	Sheff Utd	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
Sheff Utd	15	Sheff Utd	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Sheff Utd	16	Sheff Utd	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
Sheff Utd	17	Sheff Utd	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
Sheff Utd	18	Sheff Utd	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
Sheff Utd	19	Sheff Utd	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
Sheff Utd	20	Sheff Utd	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
Sheff Utd	21	Sheff Utd	21	21	21	21	21	21	21
Sheff Utd	22	Sheff Utd	22	22	22	22	22	22	22
Sheff Utd	23	Sheff Utd	23	23	23	23	23	23	23
Sheff Utd	24	Sheff Utd	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
Sheff Utd	25	Sheff Utd	25	25	25	25	25	25	25
Sheff Utd	26	Sheff Utd	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
Sheff Utd	27	Sheff Utd	27	27	27	27	27	27	27
Sheff Utd	28	Sheff Utd	28	28	28	28	28	28	28
Sheff Utd	29	Sheff Utd	29	29	29	29	29	29	29
Sheff Utd	30	Sheff Utd	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
Sheff Utd	31	Sheff Utd	31	31	31	31	31	31	31
Sheff Utd	32	Sheff Utd	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
Sheff Utd	33	Sheff Utd	33	33	33	33	33	33	33
Sheff Utd	34	Sheff Utd	34	34	34	34	34	34	34
Sheff Utd	35	Sheff Utd	35	35	35	35	35	35	35
Sheff Utd	36	Sheff Utd	36	36	36	36	36	36	36
Sheff Utd	37	Sheff Utd	37	37	37	37	37	37	37
Sheff Utd	38	Sheff Utd	38	38	38	38	38	38	38
Sheff Utd	39	Sheff Utd	39	39	39	39	39	39	39
Sheff Utd	40	Sheff Utd	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
Sheff Utd	41	Sheff Utd	41	41	41	41	41	41	41
Sheff Utd	42	Sheff Utd	42	42	42	42	42	42	42
Sheff Utd	43	Sheff Utd	43	43	43	43	43	43	43
Sheff Utd	44	Sheff Utd	44	44	44	44	44	44	44
Sheff Utd	45	Sheff Utd	45	45	45	45	45	45	45
Sheff Utd	46	Sheff Utd	46	46	46	46	46	46	46
Sheff Utd	47	Sheff Utd	47	47	47	47	47	47	47
Sheff Utd	48	Sheff Utd	48	48	48	48	48	48	48
Sheff Utd	49	Sheff Utd	49	49	49	49	49	49	49
Sheff Utd	50	Sheff Utd	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
Sheff Utd	51	Sheff Utd	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
Sheff Utd	52	Sheff Utd	52	52	52	52	52	52	52
Sheff Utd	53	Sheff Utd	53	53	53	53	53	53	53
Sheff Utd	54	Sheff Utd	54	54	54	54	54	54	54
Sheff Utd	55	Sheff Utd	55	55	55	55	55	55	55
Sheff Utd	56	Sheff Utd	56	56	56	56	56	56	56
Sheff Utd	57	Sheff Utd	57	57	57	57	57	57	57
Sheff Utd	58	Sheff Utd	58	58	58	58	58	58	58
Sheff Utd	59	Sheff Utd	59	59	59	59	59	59	59
Sheff Utd	60	Sheff Utd	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
Sheff Utd	61	Sheff Utd	61	61	61	61	61	61	61
Sheff Utd	62	Sheff Utd	62	62	62	62	62	62	62
Sheff Utd	63	Sheff Utd	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
Sheff Utd	64	Sheff Utd	64	64	64	64	64	64	64
Sheff Utd	65	Sheff Utd	65	65	65	65	65	65	65
Sheff Utd	66	Sheff Utd	66	66	66	66	66	66	66
Sheff Utd	67	Sheff Utd	67	67	67	67	67	67	67
Sheff Utd	68	Sheff Utd	68	68	68	68	68	68	68
Sheff Utd	69	Sheff Utd	69	69	69	69	69	69	69
Sheff Utd	70	Sheff Utd	70	70	70	70	70	70	70
Sheff Utd	71	Sheff Utd	71	71	71	71	71	71	71
Sheff Utd	72	Sheff Utd	72	72	72	72	72	72	72
Sheff Utd	73	Sheff Utd	73	73	73	73	73	73	73
Sheff Utd	74	Sheff Utd	74	74	74	74	74	74	74
Sheff Utd	75	Sheff Utd	75	75	75	75	75	75	75
Sheff Utd	76	Sheff Utd	76	76	76	76	76	76	76
Sheff Utd	77	Sheff Utd	77	77	77	77	77	77	77
Sheff Utd	78	Sheff Utd	78	78	78	78	78	78	78
Sheff Utd	79	Sheff Utd	79	79	79	79	79	79	79
Sheff Utd	80	Sheff Utd	80	80	80	80	80	80	80
Sheff Utd	81	Sheff Utd	81	81	81	81	81	81	81
Sheff Utd	82	Sheff Utd	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
Sheff Utd	83	Sheff Utd	83	83	83	83	83	83	83
Sheff Utd	84	Sheff Utd	84	84	84	84	84	84	84
Sheff Utd	85	Sheff Utd	85	85	85	85	85	85	85
Sheff Utd	86	Sheff Utd	86	86	86	86	86	86	86
Sheff Utd	87	Sheff Utd	87	87	87	87	87	87	87
Sheff Utd	88	Sheff Utd	88	88	88	88	88	88	88
Sheff Utd	89	Sheff Utd	89	89	89	89	89	89	89
Sheff Utd	90	Sheff Utd	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
Sheff Utd	91	Sheff Utd	91	91	91	91	91	91	91
Sheff Utd	92	Sheff Utd	92	92	92	92	92	92	92
Sheff Utd	93	Sheff Utd	93	93	93	93	93	93	93
Sheff Utd	94	Sheff Utd	94	94	94	94	94	94	94
Sheff Utd	95	Sheff Utd	95	95	95	95	95	95	95
Sheff Utd	96	Sheff Utd	96	96	96	96	96	96	96
Sheff Utd	97	Sheff Utd	97	97	97	97	97	97	97
Sheff Utd	98	Sheff Utd	98	98	98	98	98	98	98
Sheff Utd	99	Sheff Utd	99	99	99	99	99	99	99
Sheff Utd	100	Sheff Utd	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Third division

Carlisle	2	Plymouth	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
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West
respondent

in 17 England Colts 7
lesant to report that
international meeting be-
se two countries. Since
were locked together
turbulent affair at
me was conducted—
very reason—most
old be — the super
spirit under the serene
e of Alan Rosie
going at Bridgend on
the 19th, he was in-
tended to win a match,
by Esso as part of their
rts programme, by a
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ind still had half come
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almost the head—7-2 in
Wales—reflected their
vantage in the fight
with the English. He
ayed some extra strength
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possession of which side
em up
at stand-off half in-
land to play a full back
and Price, though
the 19th, was not
ly done, had as after-

soon in attack when he seemed all but inflexible before taking the wrong option. This was first apparent when, having decided to find rough out of his twenty-two, he was caught in a ruck and the loose forwards produced a loose ball for Jones to send in Ford at the corner.

In the second half, after Melville had broken on the open side of a lineout, the English forwards were able to put the ball effectively in the loose, won a ruck that left at least a 3/2 overlap on the left. But Price kicked the ball away and England lost their last game of the tour.

Price could not complain about the service he got from his scrum-half, Melville, whose later activities were restricted by a knock in the scrum, but he could not see any impeccable passes even when under pressure. His eye for the opening, speed on the break, and incisive sense for doing the right thing in a given situation were a young player of exciting potential. But he remains rather frail in physique, and it was for their part had no difficulties at scrum-half, where Bowen's relaxed and authoritative all-round performance had with his colleague, Clem Thomas, a more convincing and a spotter for his old club, Swansea, working hard on a dossier.

The Welsh No 8, Robinson, seemed to have a more potent back, Harris, had hit a post with

[illegible]

Hands

Royal Navy 7
cellence of the RAF
ng, which was in
nstrast to much else that
t Twickenham on Satur-
day, and a deserved
try and four penalty
try and a penalty and
at last season's holders
-services championship
them a deserved
win over the RAF
against the Navy
are champions.
The first time in
the tournament that the
winners were the
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s immediately after the
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rupted by the war.
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gh the sun shone and
were perfect.
F had got it right up
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With solid first-class
k row which improved
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Lgae took his share of
The Navy, despite a
were wheeled on their
the 1930s, the Navy
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ainst the high ball was
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own their threequarter
behind their own goal
se second time produced
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shook from their touch-
Orwin, the Gloucester

[illegible]

Rugby player dies

A 37-year-old rugby hooker collapsed and died during a match in Gloucestershire on Saturday. Keith Harding was playing in a Dursley United second XV match against Gloucester All Blues when he collapsed in a scrum. Mouth-to-mouth resuscitation on the pitch failed to revive him and he was carried off the pitch, dead.

un

Lahore, March 23.—Pakistan today won a three-match series against Australia for the first time.

with the final Test here ending in a draw.

The day of the series was a personal triumph for Allan Border, the Australian all-rounder of the match. But the series itself belonged to the batsmen, led for the first time by Javed Miandad. They had won the first Test in Karachi by seven wickets, and they denied Australia's hopes of victory in the next two. This time it was Pakistan's second in a home Test against Australia. The previous success, also in Karachi, was won by the Pakistani bowlers who were led by Imran Khan.

Australians played only one Test in Pakistan.

Australia batted through the final day, moving from 64 for two over tea to close at 391 for eight at the last. They made 150 net out in the first innings—some 30 before he first came out to fight at the end.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings: 407; for three—A. Border 80, M. Waugh 67, R. Quinn 50, G. Dwyer 40, I. Trott 39, S. Marsh 30, C. Gatting 20, P. Hughes 10.

Pakistan: Second Innings

R. Quinn 6, C. Gatling, B. Taufel 6, K. Butt 4, A. Border 3, S. Marsh 2, I. Trott 2, P. Hughes 2, Q. de Silva 1, S. Waugh 1, N. Younis 1, C. H. Wastin 1, R. Misra 1.

H. Marsh	run out	1	0
N. Bright	not out	1	0
N. Bright	not out	1	0
D. Little	not out	1	0
E. Little	b-t 4, n-b 31	1	0
Total 18 wickets			
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-7, 3-11, 4-11, 5-11, 6-11, 7-11, 8-11, 9-11, 10-11, 11-11, 12-11, 13-11, 14-11, 15-11, 16-11, 17-11, 18-11			
BOWLING: Imran 15-5-0-0, Qasim 14-5-0-0, Majid 14-5-0-0, Mirandaz 14-5-0-0, Wasim Raja 14-5-0-0, Taslim 14-5-0-0, Aghar 14-5-0-0, Mirandaz 14-5-0-0			
PAKISTAN: First Innings: 450 for 9 dec. Majid Khan 310, nri out, Mirandaz Nazer 85, Imran Khan 85, Wasim Raja 50, N. Bright 51, Reuter.			

By Richard Streeton

Prakash Padukone b

their first men's singles title in the 81-year history of the All-England badminton championships, was accounted by John Player, when he beat the favourite, Liem Swie King, of Indonesia, 15-3, 15-10, in the final at Wembley yesterday.

Player retained the women's title and England, represented in three doubles lineups, won two of them.

This, though, was *not* an occasion for insularity. Two remarkable performances, the singles and the mixed doubles, were decided by the victory by Padukone taking precedence because of its sheer unexpectedness. It has played a part in the times it has always lost. It was hardly a great final, being too one-sided for that but will be remembered for the moment Swie King came on court he looked surprisingly nervous for the man acknowledged as the greatest all-round player in the world. He had just started to win this title for the third time running.

In contrast, Padukone was so calm and methodical, he landed almost lackadaisical, beginning with the minute or so he kept everybody waiting at the start and then he calmly demolished his nearly fouled his track suit. Swie King's confidence can hardly have been helped when Padukone's demolition was into it—no lead in one hand. The Indian served high and coolly dealt with the Indonesian's attack and won the points as Swie King bit wide or netted.

The Indonesian looked curiously inspired: not once in the first 20 minutes did he have a proper smash. It was, of course, a case of him not being allowed to do so. He was not allowed to do so, thrown out of gear as Padukone, delaying his shot to the last pos-

sible moment, mesmerized his opponent.

Miss Köppen was equally superior as she beat Wiharjo Veraway of Indonesia, 11-2, 11-6. No other woman player in the world could have done any better than the tall, strong Miss Veraway who looked tense and flat-footed. Miss Veraway is relatively new to European competition, but after watching Swiss King's downfall the thought

occurred to many people that perhaps Indonesia put too much pressure to succeed on their players.

The blazing rallies and spectacular, the men's doubles was the highlight. Tjun Tjun and Johana Wahjudi, of Indonesia, beat Ray Stevens and Mike Tredgett, of England's European champions, 15-3, 15-10 to take their title for the sixth time in seven years. Many of the exchanges in this match had the crowd literally squealing with excitement at every stroke, notably as the English pair were down 12-10, 13-11, and 12-11 down. At 14-9 they saved six game points.

In contrast the women's doubles final was sedate and marked more by the lack of interest of the British, Gills and Nora Perry beating the Japanese, Yoshiko Yonetani and Atsuko Okamoto. The Japanese began slowly and Mrs Perry did not look altogether happy at the start of the match, but as the degree of coordination came later. It was a result that once again made Mrs Gills's unavailability for England a source of frustration.

The England selectors later announced publicly, with an unhappy knock of timing, that after the US tour, the women's team, they were now abandoning all attempts to bring Mrs Gills back into the fold. Both sides were to be in England the next day at All-England was the wrong moment for such matters.



Mrs Gilks: her performance in the doubles made her unavailability for England all the more sad.

[illegible]

Detente and World War III?

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Jooban

[illegible]

By Ian Mackenzie
Page 12

[illegible]

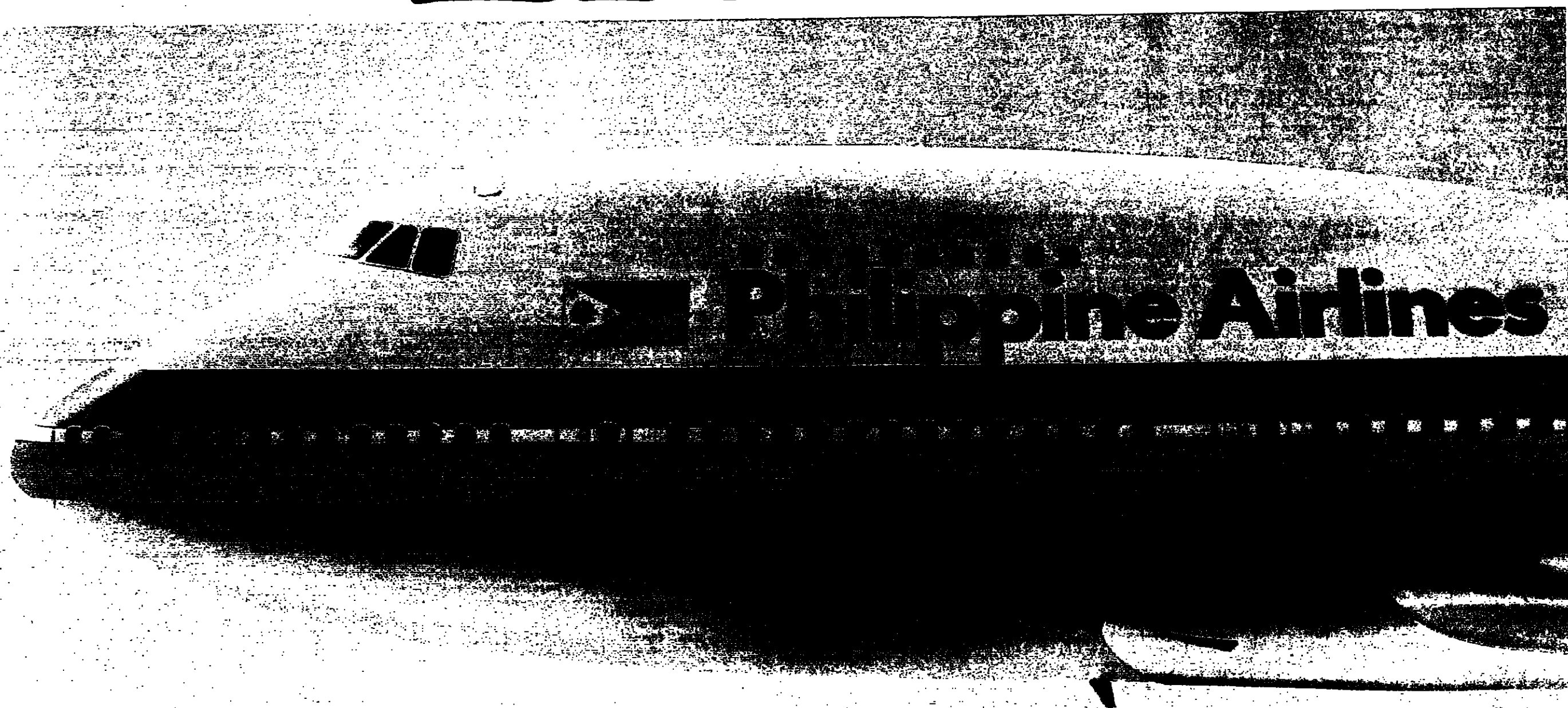
Weekend rugby results

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Take The

THE BIG SLEEP EAST.

Apr 11 1955



As Marco Polo discovered some years ago, the hardest part about doing business in the East is getting there.

It doesn't take so long these days, but 20 hours in an aeroplane can still be a harrowing experience.

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Geraldine Norman on the controversial first catalogue of a great English painter's works

The courage an expert needs to name the real Constables

John Constable is one of the most English of English painters and one of the greatest. While his work has been avidly studied and written about by art scholars in the 143 years since his death, it was only last year that the first complete oeuvre catalogue was published.

This glaring omission was made good by a Belgian art historian, Robert Hoozee, of the Ghent Museum of Fine Arts. His book has been commissioned by the Italian publishers Rizzoli and is in Italian, titled *L'opera completa di Constable*. Hoozee, who is 31, has been working on Constable since 1969; his doctoral thesis on Constable, which was presented in 1973, won an award from the Belgian Royal Academy of Science, Literature and Fine Art and is to be published by them. Continental Europe has definitely beaten Britain to the post.

An oeuvre catalogue is a daunting undertaking at the best of times: the author must track down and assess every known painting attributed to the artist. In the case of John Constable it is a nightmare—Hoozee, presumably, the lack of a catalogue up to now. (Another definitive catalogue by Charles Rynn and Graham Reynolds is expected from Yale in a year or two.)

Not only has Constable been more extensively faked than almost any other artist, but he had several friends and assistants whose work is easily muddled with his. Duncane Senior and Junior, from George Harrison, for instance, and at least five of his seven children also drew and painted. Two in particular of the children, Lionel and Alfred, are known to have painted and exhibited landscapes close to their father's style.

With an oeuvre catalogue you cannot dodge the problems: every painting must be considered and sorted in. Mr Hoozee has set out four categories: genuine works by John Constable, works attributable to the children, other works whose attribution to Constable he doubts and works previously attributed to Constable but rejected by him as fakes or imitations.

Even so, the categories have proved too limiting a strait-jacket. There are works that appear in the genuine section with a question mark to indicate that he is not sure they should be there, and others to which long footnotes are appended indicating that they might well belong elsewhere.

Mr Hoozee has told me with a hint of desperation in his voice: "I could have done with 12 or 14 categories." He is also uncomfortably aware of how daring he has been in rejecting the attributions—John Constable of paintings in famous museums and collections—for which he can expect to suffer the ire of curators. He admits that on some works his courage failed him: he left them in the genuine section with question marks or questioning footnotes.

He has indeed been brave with his changes of attribution.



A View of Arundel now reattributed to Lionel Constable. It has been up for sale several times as the work of John Constable, selling for £1,200 in 1968, £600 in 1971 and £600 again in 1976.

One of the treasured possessions of the National Gallery in Washington, hitherto considered a full scale oil study for *The White Horse*, he dismisses as "most probably an imitation"; though other Constable scholars agree with him he is the first who has dared to put it in print.

Mr Hoozee has even questioned the attribution of paintings included in the vast gift of her father's work made by Isobel Constable to the Victoria and Albert Museum. These works have generally been considered unshakably by John Constable: his daughter could not have got it wrong. But families do get muddled, and she was very old when the gift was made.

Plants growing by a well in the Victoria and Albert have been placed in the complete reject section—not even among the doubtfuls. "That was very brave," another Constable scholar commented to me, "but I'm sure he's right." The little oil is inscribed on the back "Minna Ju 27th 47", and Mr Hoozee suggests that it may be by Constable's daughter Minna—painted in "Ju" 1847 perhaps.

It is with his suggested attributions to the children that Mr Hoozee has broken the most controversial new ground. The

fact that many of Lionel's and Alfred's paintings have been masquerading under attributions to their father was first revealed in print by the Constable scholars Mr Leslie Parris and Mr Ian Fleming-Williams in September 1978. Mr Hoozee's book had already gone to press at the time their article appeared in the *Burlington Magazine* but he had discussed the matter with them.

His book follows in the main their attributions to the children, but includes many more paintings than were mentioned in the 1978 article—some were left out because they belonged to private owners, others because the attribution was still tentative.

The section entitled *I figli di Constable* (Constable's children) includes 37 landscape sketches and all of which Mr Hoozee contends have stylistic similarities with known works by Lionel Constable. The fact that the "children's" section contains only works attributed with greater or lesser certainty to Lionel underlines the inadequate present state of knowledge of the children's work.

Mr Fleming-Williams admits to the suspicion that some day a firm clue to Alfred's style may be found which will cause paintings now being attributed to Lionel to be handed to Alfred

instead. "We know he was a very good draughtsman," he comments. But the only two paintings which can be attributed with certainty to Alfred give little indication of his individual style.

In a last moment amendment to his text (following the *Burlington Magazine* article), Mr Hoozee adds a third attribution, a view of *The Abbey of St Mary*, last seen in a Paris auction in 1949; he had previously put it in his reject section, but now saves it with a footnote.

Of the 37 landscapes attributed to Lionel, nine were attributed on the basis of fairly conclusive evidence by Mr Parris and Mr Fleming-Williams; the others have been added on stylistic grounds. The original authors agree in the main: they are unconvinced by four or five; the three landscapes now on anonymous loan to Birmingham City Gallery, for instance, a *Bridge* still in the Constable family collection and a sketch of an old mill.

Confirmation has turned up in the family records for the attribution of one particular view to Lionel. And since at least four versions are known, this adds up to four pictures. It is called merely *Extensive landscape* and is a low rolling view with a vast expanse of

sky—the same view but different sky in each version. He must have loved this particular vantage point. All the versions are in private hands; one was sold at Sotheby's in July 1976 for £3,000 and another in April 1955.

The whole group of tree studies are taken from John Constable's sketchbook, and given to Lionel, including a wooded landscape which is on loan to the Kunstmuseum in Basel from Paul Steiner, and a *Tree study* in the Yale Centre for British Art.

The flat, unarticulated treatment of trees is taken to be a characteristic of Lionel. It is found again in *Trees and Stormclouds* at Yale, *Landscape with a wooded valley* in the Guildhall Art Gallery, London, and *Hampstead with Harrow* in the distance in the Ashmolean, Oxford. The pinkish-grey tones to be found in the sky of the latter painting, are also considered a Lionel hallmark.

Mr Leslie Parris, who is deputy keeper of the British collection at the Tate, is still in two minds about the attribution to Lionel of the two Tate pictures, *Leathes Water* and *Dedham Vale*. He agrees in doubting that either is by John and thinks that there is a better case for giving *Leathes Water* to Lionel than the other.

But it needs to be seen in

the context of other Lake District oil sketches, he says; Mr Hoozee has placed another three Lake District views in the genuine section, but each with a question mark beside it. "We know the speed at which Constable travelled—on foot—around the Lake District making drawings and watercolours," comments Mr Parris. "There is no proof that he made any oil landscape sketches at the time—he would have had to carry them with the paint still wet. But then we don't know if Lionel ever visited the Lake District either."

The largest group of sketches where Mr Hoozee suggests the possibility of an attribution to Lionel or Alfred is among the sky studies. He suggests that a group of 25 small sky studies could be the work of one or other, voicing the view that they are not good enough to be by John Constable himself. Most of these were in the Newson-Smith sale at Christie's in 1951; Mr and Mrs Paul Mellon acquired a large number, now at Yale, the Fitzwilliam Cambridge have three and the Whitworth Art Gallery in Manchester has recently acquired one—Agnew's paid £2,000 for it at Christie's in 1970.

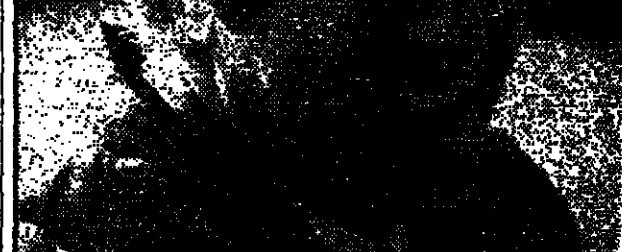
The Newson-Smith collection of Constables was bought through Leggart's in the 1890s from Ella Macdonald, John Constable's granddaughter. It is thus fairly certain that the cloud studies came from the Constable family. In a long footnote to the one such study that Mr Hoozee has included in his "genuine" section, he suggests that the Newson-Smith collection contained around 40 spurious cloud studies.

He points out that the documentary references in Constable's correspondence and his friend Charles Leslie's writings all connect up with largely, fairly finished cloud studies; most of them have inscriptions on the back in Constable's hand. He suggests that none of the small sketchy studies is by John Constable. He notes that a small cloud study included in Isobel Constable's gift to the Victoria and Albert Museum would have to be rejected as well in this case.

Where paintings that definitely belonged to the family are doubted, the sons are clearly good contenders for authorship—though it is always possible that works by friends or assistants crept into the family possession as well.

Alfred's letters speak of him at work on "clouding" and in one he exhorts his brother Lionel: "... if you see a piece of fine sky take the shape of the clouds and remember the colours." Or again: "Dear Lar I must tell you that the pencilling of the mill you sent me is very beautiful you seem to have quite the power of the pencil the sky is so beautiful how well it will paint do make a sketch of it a grand sky will greatly help you." Alfred apparently had no taste for punctuation.

Saleroom Correspondent



Peter Mayer: a reputation for dynamism.

Willing to take a gamble at Penguin

To introduce change to a firm which is as much of a British institution as Penguin Books is not easy at the best of times. It is devilishly difficult when sales and profits are being hit as throughout British publishing—by the strength of the pound combined with stiffening American competition; by cuts in public spending in the library and educational sectors; and, as in all forms of business, by inflation and crippling interest rates.

"One would rather have come at a more propitious time," comments Mr Peter Mayer, who took over as Penguin's chief executive on November 1, 1978, after a long period of disputes in the firm's higher ranks. Perhaps it did not help either that Mr Mayer was youngish (now 43), American, and had a reputation for dynamism, attributes not universally admired in Britain.

"But one is here," he adds, "and one is going to prevail." He is a tallish, rather good-looking New Yorker of German and Luxembourg origins, with that openness found in so many Americans. One of his chief difficulties at Penguin is that his longer term reforms require time before they can show results. Meanwhile, he and his colleagues have, like a number of other publishers, had to take short term measures to counteract the worsening economic climate.

These include the proposed shedding of 38 staff, and a 22 per cent reduction in new titles: those with low initial sales, and those unlikely to merit re-printing. These cuts are being strongly contested by the staff, who accuse Mr Mayer of having foreseen high interest rates, and of going too far "down market" in his search for sales.

No body denies that Penguin is in trouble before Mr Mayer was hired. Looking at the books, so to speak, he found several underlying sources of weakness.

Penguin still had 25 per cent of the British paperback market, and some 4,000 titles in print, a record that its nearest paperback competitor, Analysis of past sales showed that in Penguin's post-war heyday, around 75 per cent of published titles justified re-printing and became part of the backlist. This proportion had gradually fallen to 33 per cent.

Since backlists are eroded by changes in taste and so on, unless replenished, that was an alarming trend. A prime aim must therefore be to reduce the proportion of titles that failed to make the backlist. A complicating factor here was the vastly increased cost of buying paperback rights.

Even while I was talking to Mr Mayer, a senior editorial colleague, Mr Peter Carson, came to report on a bid to secure the paperback rights of Sir Laurence Olivier's autobiography, being written with Mark Amory. Mr Carson said he had told Olivier's hardback publisher, Hodder & Stoughton, that £40,000 would be their best offer. Since the response had been "How embarrassing," it had clearly been matched by another firm. "Play around with other parts of the contract," Mr Mayer urged, deciding that £40,000 must remain the ceiling. In the event the rights went to Coronet Books, part of Hodder & Stoughton, for slightly more.

Mr Mayer also came to feel that Penguin was in some ways a sleeping giant, or "under-

marketed". To illustrate he told me that before they had never sold in 70,000 copies of a Greene novel in any of the 10 years since its publication. One of the reasons was the cover of Greene's *Human Factor*, red and four colours instead of the much more conservative black and white. "Even the cover," he said, "was a mistake. We had 200,000, and we were 300,000," he said.

With M. M. Kaye's *Pauline*, they gamble selling it in a larger £2.50. With a lot of a marketing, net sales in six months exceeded worldwide.

The marketing Penguin had previously remained out at R. W. and in the original. All operations have been consolidated at new premises around in the King's Road, and the voice of editors in marketing and been strengthened.

Equally it seemed Mayer that Penguin "pitched itself over" top end of the market put it. "In the end, changes are in fact back."

For 10 years Penguin has been dogged by the difficulty of finding a helmsman publishing fit and genuine executive ability.

One venture "down" later criticized by a angry at the proposed to pay £45,000 for the rights of *The P. 7* was a novel by Stephen Ward widely considered been "lipped up" or far beyond its merit: publication (a notable way, by agent Fisher).

Was that an error? "Absolutely," Mr Mayer. "We haven't published it, has already sold 16, in hardback—and Fontana were on behind us. Naipaul, C. P. Snow: they all nowadays. You can't compete. But that nature." Was the build up a backlist? "No, the book do backlist."

Since Penguin merged the Pearson, Longman in 1970, after the demerger, founder Sir James was being dogged by a curio of finding a who combined real flair with genuine executive. Mr Mayer may not prove to be an elusive combination. It would be said, but British if a hostile re his attempts to deal with problems from efforts to sort out the lying weaknesses of cherished a feature of life.

Roger Be

During a Commons debate on child benefits last Tuesday I listened to a speech by a Tory MP which could easily have been made from the Opposition benches. Some Tory MPs obviously believed what their election manifesto had promised, and at the end of the debate a few of them voted with Labour, while others abstained.

It is rare for new MPs—and most of the "wets" or "pinks" as they are called by the Tory hardliners are new—to reveal their hand so early to Parliament. Yet they have, and by doing so have spotlighted the mess the Government is in.

This is revealed by little obvious mistakes such as the bad drafting of the Government's motion on the Olympic Games, rather than by the bigger issues which underline it. For example, inflation running at 19.1 per cent, unemployment high and ever rising, the balance of payments in the red and the forecasts that things will get worse: Mrs Thatcher saving as much in the Tory political broadcast on the eve of the Southend by-election.

Backbench Tory MPs, left and right, are becoming increas-

ingly restless. After the debate on the Olympics a number of them, including Mr Edward Heath, abstained on the Tory motion and some exceedingly harsh things were said about the Government, especially by hardliners.

The Rhodesian settlement can be chalked up as a relative success, but on that the right-wingers consider that they have been betrayed. The EEC summit presents the next hurdle for the Government, and if a real reduction in the amount Britain pays into the EEC Budget is not secured, and if the Common Agricultural Policy is not radically reformed, then the internal party pressures on the Government will grow.

Whatever the Budget contains on Wednesday, the Government is not going to satisfy many of its backbenchers. The "Wets and Pinks" will react

strongly if further real cuts are made in public expenditure, especially if affecting social security benefits, while the hard-line right will complain if the cuts are not severe enough. Either way, there is bound to be discontent.

Despite the rumblings in the ranks, Mrs Thatcher is still in control of the Government, but that is not necessarily going to be so in the future. The Tories are far more ruthless than Labour when dealing with leaders and individuals. In the Tory Party, if you don't win, you go, and as Mrs Thatcher's policies increasingly run into trouble, and the party faithful begin to switch allegiance as they did at Southend, then the political "assassination" squad will go into action and the dead will be done, no doubt in a polite and civilized way, but done all the same.

The Government still has serious battles to face. Up to now, there have only been preliminary skirmishes with the Commons, but it is clear that Mrs Thatcher is preparing for a deeper and more serious confrontation. The proposal which

Eric Heffer

The four choices facing the Tories

The Tories are faced with four choices. They can soldier on with the present Thatcherite policies and hope against hope that things will turn out all right, or they can force the Government to carry out some major U-turns, as Mr Heath did after 18 months in office. They could panic and go early to the country, or they could force Mrs Thatcher to resign and elect or find a new leader. This last suggestion may appear fanciful and at the moment it can rightly be argued that it is premature, yet it may come to that sooner than one thinks.

The Government still has serious battles to face. Up to now, there have only been preliminary skirmishes with the Commons, but it is clear that Mrs Thatcher is preparing for a deeper and more serious confrontation. The proposal which

may well be included in the Budget that in future strikers will have been "deemed" to be getting money from the unions, even if they are not, and that the amount "deemed" will be deducted from social security benefits for the strikers' wife and children, is not merely mean, it is downright vicious.

As Mr Prior, the "wet hawk", suggested at a recent House of Commons Press Gallery lunch, there is more than one way of killing a cat.

Perhaps the Government hopes that a climate of rising unemployment, layoffs, factory closures, the unions will back off from a fight. Certainly, unemployment is a real weakener, but that in itself will not stop the workers from fighting back. At the moment, their response may appear ragged and their support for their leaders only half-hearted and

tepid, as in the South Wales coalfield recently, but as the harshness of Government policies gets across to them their response will grow and real anger will develop. At that point, it will be difficult, if not impossible for the leaders to hold back the rank and file.

I do not think that Mrs Thatcher really understands the resentment that is building up among trade unionists, a resentment which will turn to hatred if the Employment Bill becomes law and if the social security benefits are frozen at their present levels, and especially if strikers' families are deprived of financial aid.

The subservient British worker is a thing of the past. Over the years he has gained self-confidence, and this will show itself increasingly in varying forms of political action.

It will be fascinating to observe the struggle in the Tory Party as it unfolds in the months to come. One can only hope that the British people do not suffer too much while the "hawks" continue to control the destiny of the nation. *The Times* Newspaper, 1980. The author is Labour MP for Liverpool, Walton.

One of the T-shirts in Joyce Yinger's garden supply and souvenir shop near Middleton, Pennsylvania, bears the slogan: "Squeeze me, I radiate. Kiss me, I melt down." Another declares: "Happiness is a cool reactor."

You will have guessed that the shop is not far—only a few hundred yards—from the nuclear power station at Three Mile Island, which has been out of action since a terrifying accident a year ago. During those 11 tense days it may have come perilously close—just how close remains uncertain—to melting its fuel core and spreading poisonous radiation across the surrounding countryside.

Mrs Yinger began selling souvenirs of the near-disaster in June to visitors who flocked to stare at the crippled power station; their bizarre pilgrimage inspired by the puzzling principle that anything famous must for that very reason be interesting.

It is clearly a lucrative business. Even the gift shop at Harrisburg airport nearby has a line of money boxes labelled "cashed radiation", as well as note pads and calendars adorned with pictures of the notorious cooling towers. The humour in most of these offerings borders on the

desperate, a kind of subsumed hysteria which reveals something about the mood of the surrounding communities in the wake of the accident. There is tension, edginess, a brittle calm which barely cloaks nervousness about hazards yet to come as efforts continue to clear the power station of radioactive substances. For a year, people have scarcely talked about anything else.

"The accident at Three Mile Island did not end with cold shutdown, nor will it end for some time," said the presidential commission which investigated it. It would continue the clean-up was completed.

The residents, even if they wanted to forget it, are not being allowed to. Hordes of official and unofficial visitors still pour into the area to investigate, report or simply stare.

The first anniversary of the accident, which will be celebrated by an anti-nuclear demonstration on Thursday, has brought scores of reporters gathering material for articles such as the one you are now reading. Two men from the *Minneapolis Star* were in Mrs Yinger's shop when I arrived. Her visitors' book revealed

traces of reporters from *Time* and *People* magazines, the *London Daily Mirror* and others.

Nearly 50,000 people attended the plant's visitors' centre, just up the road from her shop, in the last six months of 1979 compared with about 10,000 in the whole year before the accident. Some combined it with a visit to Hershey, a chocolate factory and amusement park a dozen miles away, making a nicely rounded day's outing for the family.

On fine days, tourists can eat from red picnic tables thoughtfully provided by the power company, staring as they do at the cooling towers and reactor caving across the thin stretch of the Susquehanna river: a good background for family snapshots.

Inside the visitors' centre, a 20-minute film explains how the accident happened. If there was a single cause it was a valve which stuck in the open position after opening to relieve pressure on the nuclear reactor's cooling system.

Operators in the control room did not know the valve was stuck and that cooling water was therefore escaping. When emergency pumps automatically switched themselves on to pro-

vide more cooling water, the operators switched them off. The reactor overheated and the core became damaged.

Radioactive water from the open valve flooded the basement of the building housing the reactor and the auxiliary building next door.

After nearly two hours, somebody noticed the stuck valve and closed it. Had it stayed open for another 30 or 60 minutes, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's report, the core would have melted, releasing huge quantities of radioactivity.

The polluted debris of the accident remains trapped in the power station. Just how it should be disposed of is the subject of a fierce local debate. The power company, Metropolitan Edison, want to release 44,000 curies of krypton gas into the atmosphere over a period of 60 days and are awaiting approval from the NRC. They claim that the most radiation anybody could pick up from it would be one tenth of a millirem. People pick up about 100 millirems of radiation a year from natural sources such as sunshine and 36 millirems from one chest X-ray.

All the same the proposal has provoked unease in Middletown

and nearby communities, as a look at the local press demonstrates. The *Middletown Press* and *Journal* print critical letters nearly every week.

"We have a new modern version of dictatorship, aggression and human atrocities," read one. "The corporate officials of Three Mile Island are dictating the venting of voluminous radioactive poisonous gases over a period of 60 days or more which is against the thinking of the vast majority of people in this area."

Residents are particularly worried about the effect on young children. This month, when a small quantity of the gas was released, one school would play, last week, at a meeting with NRC officials, residents protested angrily at the plan for the new gas releases. "We hate your guts," one woman shouted at a biologist.

Another said: "Take the message home to Washington—there shall be no peace in Middletown." And another: "We will never forgive or forget what you have put us through. You are no more worthy than a hunk of cow manure."

A letter in the *Harrisburg Evening News* put it in a more measured way. "The NRC should force Met Ed to clean

up the krypton gas by one of the safer but more expensive methods. The health and safety of our children ought to be placed ahead of Met Ed's profits."

Mr David Klucsik, a public information officer for Metropolitan Edison, maintains that this is the safest way of releasing the gas, which must be done before the rest of the clean-up can begin. Any alternative method would involve transferring it to a separate container, which would beg the question of ultimate disposal and could be risky, because untested.

Until the Krypton is removed, Mr Klucsik said, no maintenance can be carried out on the ventilation system which keeps conditions stable inside the damaged containment building. It has already run for a year without maintenance—longer than it is designed for—and if it were to fail then a fresh accident could ensue.

Some of the residents I spoke to accepted that argument but others shared the unease. When that question is settled, there comes the potentially more difficult one of disposing of the contaminated cooling water. Only then can engineers look at the core itself to see how badly damaged it is.

Few of the people I interviewed were happy about the prospect of the plant resuming nuclear operations. Some hope it will be changed to be fuelled by coal, a proposal which the company is investigating.

Some doubt that it will reopen in any form. Last week Dr Robert Parente, an engineering consultant, told the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission that because of the high cost of the clean-up and repairs "the most likely outcome is for it never to be returned to service."

One effect of the accident has been to harm the nuclear power industry. No new orders for nuclear power stations have been placed in the past year and the NRC is being cautious about granting operating licences for those nearing completion.

Locally, the impact has been psychological rather than practical. Mr Paul Thompson, an estate agent, told me that property prices had not dropped as many feared they would, and that any difficulty in disposing of houses was due to the nationwide effect of high interest rates rather than to uncertainty about moving into the area.

Mr George Boyer, who is 74, is selling his general store about

a mile from the power station, and is moving to a house only a mile away. He is one of those who want to see the plant again.

"As far as I'm concerned they can open it up," he said. "As a matter of fact, I wish they would. Keep up with the world. If we don't, we're left back in a hole in the world's wheel goes by."

"I joke about it, I tell someone about it, but I don't have a picking vegetables in here because they grow. At here, someone's Yinger was not quite genuine as that, but British, it's a little move." She was outside by yet another photographer who wanted a picture of her standing in a picture of the Three Mile Island on the sign.

"As I began to leave," she said, "I was coming to see. There's going to be a lot of people here. I've heard that Linda is coming. That will be a few more guests."

Michael Le



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BUDGETING FOR DECLINE

Substantial part of the public expenditure cuts to be announced next week as part of the Budget will come from economic social security payments, has been widely forecast and in effect confirmed by the Tory of State for Social Security, Mr Patrick Jenkin, in speech to the Conservative All Party Conference on Saturday. In probability it will be this cut in the Budget package which will arouse the most controversy.

Controversy has fastened upon principal possibilities: that benefit will not be uprated to meet inflation; that term social security payments will not be adjusted to inflation; and that steps will be taken to scrap the earnings-related supplement to unemployment benefit. All of these possibilities raise important issues, would be a mistake to treat all alike—supporting or opposing the lot on the grounds of economy or compassion. Id benefits in particular are on their own. They were introduced in 1977 to replace family allowances and child allowances, which were discontinued in April last year, are not means-tested and are paid to families where a breadwinner is in work. It is a combination of factors that make them a special category, guard them as just another benefit is wholly mistaken. The first place, they are the safeguard against the trap; the more they are maintained in real terms the more worthwhile it will be for a low-income earner to take rather than to rely upon unemployment benefit. Because benefits are not means-tested, they do not deter the dual from earning more for himself and they can be raised without any disincentive effect.

Perhaps the strongest reason for treating child benefits

differently from other social benefits is that they have taken the place of the old child tax allowances, which were designed not as a social service but to provide equity at any income level for families as compared with the childless taxpayer. These allowances were of particular advantage for those with middle and upper incomes. If the value of child benefits is allowed to dwindle away in real terms they will not be an adequate substitute for the old allowances, which will mean that a new inequity will arise at all income levels between taxpayers with and without children.

This is not an argument for keeping child benefits in line with the movement of prices under all circumstances. The capacity to do that must depend upon economic conditions. But it follows that child benefits should be treated on the same basis as the remaining tax allowances; and if they are not uprated to the same extent, which may well be the case, then child benefits should be put in whatever is the top category. No tax allowance should have a greater claim on a Government that is supposed to be giving priority to its family policy.

There can be no logical case for putting other social benefits on the same footing as tax allowances. The case for them is that it is the mark of a civilized society to do the best it can for those members who are in particular need, from whatever cause. If the state of the economy permits it, there is no reason why these benefits should not be uprated by more than the increase in prices—as indeed was the custom for quite a number of years. When a society is prospering it is right that the unfortunate should have a share in the greater prosperity. But when prosperity is declining it is unrealistic to insist that only those receiving social benefits

should be sure of maintaining their living standards.

It will not be unreasonable, therefore, if the Government decide to uprate some benefits by less than the increase in prices. The distinction they clearly intend to draw is between short-term and other benefits. This is justifiable on social considerations as well as on grounds of political expediency. Economies have got to be found from somewhere and it is better that they should be sought from those in a category of temporary need—while appreciating that many of the individuals receiving what is supposed to be short-term assistance today will be getting another form of benefit tomorrow.

The same reasoning might be thought to justify getting rid of the earnings-related supplement which is added for up to six months to the flat-rate unemployment benefit. But that is not so. It would justify a decision not to uprate this supplement in line with inflation. But it would be a mistake to change the long-term structure of a scheme in order to meet an immediate economic necessity. The question is whether this is the right long-term structure. There were two arguments for introducing this earnings-related supplement. One was a consideration of social equity; that it was undesirable for a person to suffer catastrophic drop in income the moment he lost his job—catastrophic because of the commitments he would have undertaken. The second reason was to reduce the fear of a short spell out of work, and thereby encourage the mobility of labour. These two considerations still apply. The right principle for the Government to follow at this stage is to get the economies they need by refusing to uprate short-term benefits by as much as they would otherwise have done, not by indulging in a bit of structural tinkering.

MEXICO TAKES THE SLOW ROAD

Mexico has just taken two decisions which show that it remains in its tradition of going its way in the world, regardless of issues from outside. It has decided not to join the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, in spite of having negotiated favourable terms for doing so. It has decided to make small, 10 per cent increase in oil production, when the Mexicans, in particular, wanted to make a much larger one. New policies were announced last week that were calculated to attract as much attention as possible in a speech by President Lopez Portillo during the celebration of the anniversary of the nationalization of the foreign oil companies in 1938. Together with a third announcement, of a production programme needed to make Mexico self-sufficient in most basic foodstuffs, they constitute the government's answer to the question: how to develop its oil income to develop its

industry, and the idea of joining the GATT was that it would make industry more efficient by requiring the gradual removal of the protection which has long shielded it, as well as opening up export opportunities. Most of the larger Latin American countries, such as Brazil, Argentina, Chile and Peru, already belong, as do developing countries elsewhere. But when the terms of entry were published and a public debate was held, there was such an outcry that the President decided not to pursue it further. The main reason he gave was that GATT membership would cause difficulties for the industrialization programme. But another factor was clearly the fear that though it would have helped big companies, including international ones, it would have threatened the medium-sized and small ones.

The Americans wanted an increase in Mexican oil production because they see Mexico as a secure source of supply. They already take the greater part of Mexican exports. But the Mexicans now feel better

equipped than ever before to stand up to pressures from their large neighbour; and they have decided that a big increase in production would simply cause them difficulties because, not being able to absorb the added revenue, they would suffer from inflation and an overvalued peso.

The basic Mexican need is not just economic development, but development which will help the millions of Mexicans who live in conditions of extreme poverty. The discovery of vast oil reserves provides an opportunity to do something about this situation; if industrialization and food production can be effectively stimulated. Other countries—such as Venezuela with its much smaller population—have found that it is not easy, and the Mexicans hope to avoid their mistakes by being less ambitious. So it is understandable that they have decided to hold back oil production, as indeed some of the Gulf states are doing. But the decision to remain outside the GATT, and the missed opportunity to modernize Mexican industry, could hold back development.

Wood

Thatcher 'Iron Lady' the EEC

Enter today an ominous political week. On Wednesday the cell of the Exchequer will be in a severe anti-inflationary attack that will reduce the state's as Everyman's almoner and by touch all our lives.

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the EEC Council agricultural Ministers will meet to decide by how much prices for products in costly us should be raised in 1980. Mrs Thatcher will join the heads of government at a summit in Brussels as she will bluntly refuse to let the United Kingdom continue to be the almoner to western Europe while the British people are to be put on short commons.

Today in Strasbourg the European parliament opens a three-session on EEC farm prices in a muted though apparently flagrant attempt to contain agricultural spending and make more budgetary room to spend on urban mobility policies.

Community revenue, although it has been the subject of a long and bitter struggle, Mrs Thatcher herself has ensured that politically there is no escape route for the Government if the summit meeting fails to produce the full list of Community receipts to balance Community payments during the budget year 1980-81. There will be a domestic political collision or a Community collision—either or both head on. She raised the question first at the Strasbourg summit last week. She aggressively built up the united case for the United Kingdom, the strongest and resorted to diplomacy only when she failed to get her way. Now, she has abandoned diplomacy again for television and has returned to aggression for the Brussels summit. The United Kingdom, she threatened, cannot be expelled from the Community, so it will consider withholding payments or bloody minded blocking tactics until justice is done. And Brussels now promises now more than Dublin offered.

Probably to the benefit of domestic political realism, Mrs Thatcher as Prime Minister has done more to kill off the European idea and the European ideal in Britain than all the anti-Community forces rolled into one. She pays lip service to Europeanism because as the leader of the party that took the United Kingdom into the Community she cannot do otherwise without betrayal. But, in essence, she must be saying that an industrial country like the United Kingdom, with its history of cheap food imports and relatively high-priced manufactured exports, cannot fit in to the Community regime that it spent 12 years trying to join. Like Harold Wilson and his men, she demands re-negotiated terms of membership.

Who needs question that elections, including deeply committed Europeanists, will be held in 1982? Mrs Thatcher cannot see the domestic Budget as a means to bring in public spending to curb a domestic inflationary spiral and then rush off to the self-sufficiency to accept that the United Kingdom should continue to get out money as principal priority to the Eight. It is estimated that in 1980-81 the United Kingdom will succeed West Germany as the largest contributor to

terms. In that she will exact the price of the British people in the country she now leads.

Yet the question must be asked whether by carrying her argument to a political and diplomatic extreme, with resort to ultimatum, threat and impossible deadlines, she does not risk throwing away one of the great boons a United Kingdom government now possesses. There is a deep-seated change taking place in Community attitudes towards the Common Agricultural Policy's domination of the budget. The Commission is broadly on Mrs Thatcher's side. The directly elected Council of Ministers' 1980 budget, is broadly on her side. Spokesmen for European industrial workers and consumers increasingly move to her side.

Nobody has made that clearer than Mr Christopher Tugendhat, budget Commissioner, in a Hamburg speech earlier this month. Mr Tugendhat, privately considers it the best speech he has made, and he is right. Assuredly he showed the way to the budgetary revolution, or evolution; that is now in prospect, and himself proposed that cash limits over Cap spending should be established by at last rationally synchronizing the Community budget with farm price decisions of the Council of Agricultural Ministers.

Yet fundamental change must take more time than Mrs Thatcher has ever suggested she will allow. Take one example. Last December the European parliament was almost united in throwing out the 1980 budget in the hope of containing farm subsidies and finding scope for expenditure on (say) social and regional policies. This week in Strasbourg two main committees (agriculture and budget) are going to be split about increases in spending; and Mrs Thatcher carries much responsibility for throwing the European farming lobby onto the defensive.

Mrs Thatcher has an unanswerable case, even in the terms of the EEC's own rather metaphysical theory of economic convergence. Nevertheless, to demand the whole loaf for delivery at the door tomorrow will be to invite rebuff and frighten off friends in need who are friends indeed. It is simply an unachievable objective.

Tory voting in Europe

From Mr David Curry, MEP for North-East Essex (Conservative)

Sir, May I put the record straight about the voting behaviour of the British Conservative members of the European Parliament's agriculture committee during the debate on the farm price proposals earlier this week.

The amendment to recommend an average 7.9 per cent increase in farm prices was tabled by the Danish Conservative Member, Mr Kent Kirk, who is a member of our group in the European Parliament. Mr Robert Battersby (Humberston), Mr James Provan (North-East Scotland) and myself voted against that amendment and in favour of our own amendment for a freeze on products in surplus. Mr Paul Howell (Norfolk) voted for the 7.9 per cent increase. Sir Henry Plumb (Cotswolds) was in the chair and did not vote.

Those of us who voted in favour of the freeze did so fully aware of the crisis facing British agriculture because of the very sharp increases in its costs; the burden of high bank borrowing charges; and its dependence on energy. We were also aware that the closure of the "greenhouse" year has deprived our own Government of a means of increasing British farm incomes without raising the general EEC price level.

However, we believed that the reasons to support a freeze were overriding.

(i) The dominant issue in the EEC at the moment is the United Kingdom budget problem. Every 1 per cent on the level of EEC farm prices adds £20m to the United Kingdom's budget contribution. We did not see how we could justify voting to increase the United Kingdom budgetary contribution in the run-up to a vital summit meeting at which Britain's budgetary contribution will be top of the agenda.

(ii) We had no confidence that the Council of Ministers would endorse the radical Commission proposals to limit guaranteed prices in the dairy sector, hence permitting a price increase without the threat of increased surplus.

(iii) The Parliament itself voted last year to reject the proposed 1980 budget because the volume of agricultural spending was so high a proportion of the whole that it effectively swamped any other common policy, at best, would, in many cases, doing the job of sustaining farm livelihoods efficiently and economically. We felt that the Parliament had to face up to the responsibility of its own rejection vote if it was to stake its claim for a responsible share in EEC policy-making. Our question would probably be dismissed as concerned primarily with massaging its own ego.

(iv) We also believed that it was time that the agriculture committee recognized that agriculture had to observe budgetary disciplines in which any national policy, including national agricultural policies, have to conform. This notion is, unhappily, entirely novel to some of the committee's "big spenders", who are preoccupied with agriculture as a means of social support (a perfectly proper preoccupation in itself) rather than as an industry.

I am confident that, when it comes to the vote in the special session of the European Parliament next week on the farm price review, the great majority of the British Conservative members will be both timely and of vital importance in this age of proliferating cults. Religious fanaticism has become big business, often under the control of unscrupulous men who manipulate their gullible recruits into a state of willing servitude.

These sophisticated organizations use the liberal laws of our country to foist upon the public, usually the young, their own ideology under the guise of religion. This enables them to claim all the protection of religious freedom, regardless of the conduct and practices to which many of them resort, often destroying the personality and soul.

Since the Jonestown suicides many groups in America are now calling for legislation to curb this unbridled abuse of civil liberty. During the war, when these cults were harnessed against the enemy, two more people who escaped from Jonestown were murdered last month. Equally dangerous cults exist in Britain.

The growing menace of the cults must convince all who have any experience of the subject that the time has come for us to grasp the nettle. The laws of our land were not framed for the conditions which apply today—the public and the state equally need protection against this whole range of deception which, as you indicate, would not

Hostel fires as a cause for anger

From the Bishop of Sturminster and the Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster

Sir, The two recent fires at London hostels for the homeless have made some people angry. They were indeed sad events. But we hope that the anger will not be directed at the voluntary organizations who are trying to cope with this enormous problem in London on almost non-existent budgets.

Rather we should be angry about the extent of homelessness and the massive cuts in the housing programme. We should protest that the Government, who take nearly £3,000m in tax and duty from trade in alcohol, put so little back into solving the problems of alcoholism, the detoxification units, education and hostels, and are now going to make matters worse by handing over this impossible problem to the boroughs, and usually to the poorer boroughs at that. We ought to be angry that we can not find somewhere to replace S. Mungo's, a large hostel being lost in the cause by the sale of the old Charing Cross Hospital.

As Bishops in the East End it is our prime duty to see the tremendous work being done by voluntary organizations and the volunteers themselves in caring for those, young and old, whom the bulk of society are content to see shuffling their way around the backstreets of our city. The conditions in the hostels sometimes gives us cause for concern, but at least they provide somewhere to go.

This human flotam is our national responsibility and it would be wrong to scapegoat the few who try to gather it in and restore it because they are not given sufficient resources to do the job.

Yours faithfully,
JIM STEPHEN,
VICAR GUZZELLI,
400 Commercial Road, E1.

From Miss Susan Plowden and others

Sir, Following the recent tragedy of the fire at the Missionaries of Charity Home in North London we, as hospital social workers, would like to make the following observations in view of the reports of overcrowding.

It is unbelievably difficult to find accommodation for the type of homeless vulnerable people housed by the above charity. Voluntary hostels are not always able to provide either the accommodation or supervision suitable for the type of person we frequently need to help; some will provide help only for a limited number of days.

Recently, for example, while trying to find a place for a man who had been a vagrant for a number of years, and was to be discharged from hospital, we were informed by various agencies that they were either full or unable to accept referrals from hospitals as their terms of reference were only for people "off the street".

The Missionaries of Charity have been extremely helpful in providing accommodation for, among others, those who might otherwise have been occupying an acute hospital bed, or have been forced to become vagrants.

Before the authorities restrict the numbers of those accepted, should not there be a corresponding increase of homes able to provide such accommodation? Or is the downward-out, whether recovering from illness or not, to be penalized still further?

Yours faithfully,
SUSAN PLOWDEN,
ALISON SURTEES,
RUTH LANTON,
VIRGINIA CUTLER,
JANE PARSONS,
SHARON RAEBURN,
DONALDA McDAVID,
JUDY LAGERWELL,
JUDY JEPSON,
ANNE FORGIE,
39 Linden Gardens, London, W2.
March 20.

Consumer's choice of bread

From Mr A. J. Buczkowski

Sir, We would like to take the opportunity of commenting upon Hugh Clayton's article "Bakers call for cut in EEC wheat levy" (March 17).

For many years our farms in the Vale of Aylesbury have been producing all the wheat (Maris Widgeon and Sappo) and rye (Acho) we can use in our bakery, which has a throughput of some 5 tonnes per week. Within the next 18 months to two years we confidently expect this figure to reach some 15/18 tonnes per week.

All our breads are of a Continental type, and we are finding there is ever increasing consumer demand for such breads as opposed to the "lily white sponge" which the large bakeries insist is what the consumers want. For many years the consumer has had very little choice in the matter, and it is ironic that the large bakeries should now be contemplating persuading the public to abandon the lily white sponge in favour of Continental type breads at a time when the sales of the lily white sponge are decreasing rapidly and the public are demanding better bread. It is a pity that the public is being misled by the large bakeries.

After several years of involvement in wholesale bread making on an increasingly large scale it appears to us there is no reason why wholemeal and Continental types of bread cannot be produced using wheat grown in the community on a scale comparable with the largest plants in the country. Indeed, the existing plants could make such bread with relatively minor modifications and a relatively small premium to ensure the right quality of wheat grown by our British farmers.

If the result of the continued high level of the wheat levy is to make the large bakers start to think about producing a better loaf, and will benefit British farmers, then perhaps the levy should be increased even further.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. BUCZKOWSKI,
Springhill Bakery,
Gazehouse Close,
Aylesbury,
Buckinghamshire,
March 20.

Cheaper air fares

From Mr Robert McCrindle, MP for Brentwood and Ongar (Conservative)

Sir, On consecutive days the Civil Aviation Authority has rejected the applications by independent airlines to open up European air routes and the initiative of British Airways for a super cheap fare in Paris has been balked by the French authorities. In these circumstances the prospects for the opening of air fares in Europe run out of steam or it is just bureaucratic shortsightedness and Continental cussedness?

No doubt there is an element of both in what has happened, but in truth the lesson of these events is that while there remains scope for innovation, we must stop entertaining hopes that European fares are set to plummet. Notwithstanding the EEC's hold initiatives into the reducing fares, the refusal by at least two member countries to template meaningful reductions, allied to the inexorable rise in costs, surely forces us to reduce our expectations.

I suspect this will seem to the independent airlines to be a counsel of despair but I wonder how many of the hardy souls who corresponded to me could survive for long in a period of economic recession. I suggest that a more sober assessment of the profitable traffic that could reasonably be attracted would be a better basis on which to build, and would lead to more realistic, if less dramatic fare reductions.

In short, rising costs, unrealistic assessments of potential traffic and the stubbornness of France and Germany to contemplate any substantial changes surely make the most likely happening is limited reductions for tourist traffic at off-peak times and a continuing rise for the business traveller.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT MCCRINDLE,
House of Commons.

Burning question

From Dr W. G. Barh

Sir, As head of a team of chemists working as translators I was most interested to read your correspondent's report on the fungicide muddle. As long as translators who are amateur scientists, or scientists who are amateur translators, are allowed to deal with documents where true scientific precision is needed, such errors will always occur.

In the case quoted, everyone seems blameworthy. The French original should never have used "boiled" which is a word with several distinct meanings, but should have sought an unambiguous alternative, of which there are several. The translator should never have employed the verb "boiled". However, the final and allegedly correct translation is still wrong. "Cuisson" does not mean "charring". It means "burning" (in the culinary sense).

I wonder how much money has been spent, with usual EEC efficiency, to produce an ambiguous original specification and two wrong translations.

Yours sincerely,
W. G. BARH,
Europa House,
Marshall Way,
Gerrards Cross,
Buckinghamshire,
March 21.

Irish voting rights

From Mr Anthony Jaggard

Sir, There have been Irish battles in the Penal Army, the French Army and the British Army. Several groups have served other countries.

I fail to see why this mercenary activity should entitle the civilian population to an additional voting rights outside their own country, particularly when many of our own countrymen are disenfranchised while they work abroad.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY JAGGARD,
The Crown and Guard Club,
127 Piccadilly, W1,
March 19.

Aims of the Palestinians

From Dr Everett M. Jacobs

Sir, It is unbelievable that Lord Carrington could have meant it when he said in the House of Lords on March 17 that he was unaware that the Palestine Liberation Organization's aim was to destroy Israel completely, and that he did not think the PLO was a terrorist organization "as such".

Yasser Arafat, chairman of the PLO and leader of the Al Fatah terrorist group, put the record straight recently as February 11 in an exclusive interview to the Venezuelan newspaper, *El Mundo*. He said: "Peace for us means the destruction of Israel. . . . We are preparing for an all-out war. This war will last for generations. Since the birth of Al Fatah in 1965, we have become the sworn enemies of Israel. We shall not rest until the day when we return to our home, and until we destroy Israel."

He continued by outlining specifically the PLO's programme and methods. The destruction of Israel is the goal of our struggle; and the

Protection of souls

From Mr K. P. Frampton

Sir, Mr Clifford Longley's article on "Protecting souls in trouble from 'Cults'" is both timely and of vital importance in this age of proliferating cults. Religious fanaticism has become big business, often under the control of unscrupulous men who manipulate their gullible recruits into a state of willing servitude.

These sophisticated organizations use the liberal laws of our country to foist upon the public, usually the young, their own ideology under the guise of religion. This enables them to claim all the protection of religious freedom, regardless of the conduct and practices to which many of them resort, often destroying the personality and soul.

Since the Jonestown suicides many groups in America are now calling for legislation to curb this unbridled abuse of civil liberty. During the war, when these cults were harnessed against the enemy, two more people who escaped from Jonestown were murdered last month. Equally dangerous cults exist in Britain.

The growing menace of the cults must convince all who have any experience of the subject that the time has come for us to grasp the nettle. The laws of our land were not framed for the conditions which apply today—the public and the state equally need protection against this whole range of deception which, as you indicate, would not

Spaced-out holidays

From Mr A. J. Davenport

Sir, Is it not time that we reviewed the position regarding Bank Holidays in the months for March, April and May? For many years we had the Monday after Easter Sunday as a movable date, and the Monday after Whit Sunday seven weeks afterwards. Now we find ourselves in the situation where Easter is still a movable feast, but the Spring Bank Holiday now appears as the last Monday in May and between these two dates we have inserted the so-called May Day holiday on the first Monday in May. The position in 1981 clearly emphasizes the need for a review. The Bank Holiday appears on April 20, May 4 and May 25—three Mondays out of six!

My particular concern as Head of a large secondary school is the extraordinary effect that this arrangement has on the school terms. Two years ago, when we had a late Easter, my authority (ILEA) in consultation with teachers decided to begin the summer term on the last Monday in April. The following Monday was a Bank Holiday; the overall picture for that half term was 19 working days. For 1981 it has been decided, again after consultation, that the May Day holiday will be incorporated in the Easter holiday, and so the summer term will begin on Tuesday, May 5 and we shall then have 14 working days at school before the Spring Bank Holiday. After that ridiculously short half term, we then have a second half term of 40 days.

I would stress that my criticism is not of any authority or any colour, but of the way in which the consultation procedure, but of the whole system. If we must have an additional public holiday, would it not be much more sensible for it to be added as the Tuesday after Easter Sunday?

Yours faithfully,
A. J. DAVENPORT,
Headmaster, St Paul's Way School,
Shepherd's Close, E3.

Channel danger

From Mr S. P. H. Young

Sir, Having heard of the future plans for the Channel tunnel, one is intrigued to know how the designers are going to take precautions for the prevention of fires being transmitted from the tunnel. Anyone who travels on the London Underground can testify to the fact that the systems are infected with vermin, any of which can carry this appalling disease.

Yours anxiously,
S. P. H. YOUNG,
16 Berkeley Street, W7.

Young riders

From Mr Patrick Doorly

Sir, An effective campaign to reduce the number of accidents among young motorcyclists would be welcomed by us all. But Mr Minter's suggestion (March 19) that 16-year-olds be banned from riding the small motorcycles (maximum engine size 175cc) which the law presently allows them raises wider issues than he may have considered.

The literary bias of our educational system results in many pupils leaving school at the earliest opportunity with neither academic qualifications nor useful skills and often with a sense of having failed. Contrary to Mr Minter's belief, these youngsters find small motorcycles exciting to ride, and usually take a pride in maintaining them in good working order. (Few have the means either to buy a new machine, or to pay a garage to repair a secondhand one.)

Servicing an engine requires concentration and patience. It develops an ability to think rationally and to coordinate mental activity with manual dexterity (a facility notoriously absent from formal education). It is precisely to foster these qualities among youngsters—who joyride on "borrowed" motorcycles (without insurance cover), that the London Borough of Wandsworth obliges them to attend a course in motorcycle maintenance. The procedure, conducted as Intermediate Treatment under the 1969 Child and Young

Persons Act, has proved a cheaper and more effective alternative to institutionalized care.

I commend the indirect rewards of caring personally for the machines we all use to those of your readers who are neither 16, nor rejects of the school system. Certainly, they should think carefully before denying 16-year-olds the machines that reach them both useful skills and a new self-respect.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK DOORLY,
158 Boundaries Road, SW12,
March 20.

Treasure from Tipperary

From Mr Hugh Pilkington

Sir, Further to Mr K. R. Smith's splendid suggestion (March 20) that the St Ninian treasure, recently discovered in Ireland, should be put on display at the British Museum, before it is returned to Dublin.

Would it not be rather more interesting if the treasure was displayed at the British Museum in the state in which it was found, for one week and then again after the conservation and restoration work has been done?

This would not only demonstrate the little-publicized expertise of the British Museum's conservation officers, but also add to the appeal of the artefacts.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH PILKINGTON,
91 Great Russell Street, WC1,
March 21.

Keeping the children happy at Easter

"You write as if every mother had hours of leisure, lashings of spare money, a car at her disposal all through the week, the only problem left being to find different ways of stimulating and amusing her children." I have not actually received a letter like that, but I am ready for it. A few faint suggestions, then. The National Playing Fields Association's Play and Volunteer Directory does list some Easter play centres (and some full-time ones). It covers England and Wales. If you send a long sae they will send you back a free photostat of the part of the directory that concerns your area. Write to them at 25 Ovington Sq. London, SW3, or ring 01-584 6445. Alternatively see if your local library has the directory.

ILEA's usual programme of holiday play centres is available by writing to: ILEA (CEC 1), County Hall, London, SE1 7PB. Tel 01-633 5673. No charge. In Scotland the Fair Play for Children organization will try to help. Send a sae to them at 39 Hope St, Glasgow, G2. Tel 041-204 2300.

Exhibitions

The Vikings: I found the exhibits marvellous, the layout disappointing. If you are going for a traditional exhibition, with real objects in glass cases, I felt the historical background could have been much clearer, better proportioned and more vivid. It is messy, but most children will enjoy it. **Vikings Exhibition,** British Museum, 61 Russell St, London, WC1B 3DG. Tel 01-636 1355. Open till July 20. Mon-Sat 10.00-17.00. Sun 14.30-18.00. Closed Good Friday. 70p (children & students), £1.40 (adults).

Japan Style and Arthur Rackham: Many exhibitions will interest one child and bore another, but I defy any child, not to be intrigued by one or two of the sections at the V&A's Japan Style exhibition. Small girls who dore on Hunca Munca dishes in doll's houses will gasp at the plastic food; the seafood au gratin almost melts as you look at it. Small boys must not miss the space-age Mitsubishi construction set and the space-man mounted on a spacecraft, itself mounted on tank tracks. This chap is armed with two machineguns, a medieval choppy-choppy weapon, a Sam missile and two shields to ward off bows and arrows or lasers or both. Even the feckless child is catered for, with complicated pachinko (gambling) machines. Above all, however, and more seriously, the exhibition may bring inspiration for masks, for puppets, for posters, for pottery. Until the end of

March, Liberty's have also mounted a huge complementary exhibition of Japanese goods, and more pachinko machines.

The exhibition of Arthur Rackham's drawings and watercolours from Sheffield is also at the V & A for a few weeks only (March 5-April 27). Victoria & Albert Museum, S Kensington, London SW7 2RL. Tel. 01-589 6371. Open (Mon-Thurs), 10.00-17.30. Sun 14.30-17.30. Closed every Friday. Admission to Japan Style 60p children, 1.35 adults.

The Great Optical Illusion and Challenge of the Chip: The Great Optical Illusion marks 50 years of television. You can even achieve that dream of dreams, seeing yourself on TV. The exhibition opens on March 27.

Challenge of the Chip is designed to demonstrate the potential of microelectronics. There are working circuits, films and even toys and games. Science Museum, S Kensington, London SW7 2DD. Tel 01-589 3456/688. Mon-Sat 10.00-18.00. Sun 14.30-18.00. Closed Good Friday. Admission to both exhibitions is free.

The Chamber of Horrors: Madame Tussauds say they are redesigning the Chamber of Horrors, partly because children complained it was not frightening enough.

London museums

Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood, Cambridge Heath

Road, London E2. Tel. 01-980 2415. April 8, 15, Automata - a rare display of how some old toys worked: April 9, 16. Find out about the paper figures illustrating stories, and make some: April 10. All the birds of the air-decorate them; April 17, Meet and make some toy animals. 14.30 each day. Admission free. (Closed every Friday).

Horrisman Museum, London Road, Forest Hill, London SE23. Tel. 01-699 1872. April 26. Boomerang making workshop. 11.00. April 27. Boomerang throwing demonstration and contests. Dulwich Park, 14.00 (ages 10 and over). To join either apply to Dr E. Goodhew, Horrisman Museum.

Museum of London, London Wall, EC2. Tel. 01-600 3699. April 9, Easter Bonnets: create a hat to rival the top designers. 10.30-12.00 & 14.00-16.00. Basic materials provided, but bring trimmings if liked. All ages. April 15/16 & 17/18. "John Stow Lived Here": two-day workshop, with activities based on costume, drama and music. 10.30-13.00 & 14.00-16.00 each day. Applications (signed by parents) to the Education Dept. The museum is open on Good Friday and closed on Easter Monday.

National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London WC2. Tel. 01-839 3321. The quiz this Easter is called "The Jungle Look". Available till April 20. For ages 8-14. Also a drawing competition. The gallery is closed on Good Friday.

National Maritime Museum,

Greenwich, London SE10. Tel. 01-589 4422. "Life Under Sail": series of films. 14.30 each day in the Runciman Lecture Theatre. Admission free. Tickets for the planetarium shows, April 8, 9, 10, from Mrs Jeffery, Planetarium Bookings, Nat Maritime Museum. Admission 5p children, 15p adults.

Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7. Tel. 589 6323. April 2, 3, 8-19 (except Sun & Mon) Family Centre is open for parents and children. They can use microscopes, make bark rubbings and handle museum objects. Also quizzes and a dinosaur puzzle. All materials provided. No charge.

Science Museum, Exhibition Road, London SW7. Tel. 01-589 3456/688. April 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 "Metals—from the Improbable to the Impossible": Easter Lecture by Aubrey Tufton. How metals are made and why they behave in the way they do. 15.00 each day. Free tickets from Education Dept. Also April 11, 12 "Amateur Radio: Making a Start". Talks, film slides and demonstrations. April 11 at 15.00, April 12, 11.00 and 15.00.

Public demonstrations in the Star Dome have been resumed after a gap of many months. Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri each week at 11.30.

Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1. Tel. 01-821 1313. March 31. April 20, Music and the Super-natural, a new gallery game. For ages 8-14. Also April 10 and 17, children's tours by Mary Ellis. 11.30 both days. For ages 8-14. All activities free.

Tower of London, London EC3

Tel 01-709 0765. April 10, The Princess in the Tower—a case for the historical detective. Illustrated lecture by Prof. Charles Ross, 15.00. For ages 13-15. Free tickets (but admission to Tower payable) from the Tower Education Office, 10, St. James's Palace, London SW1.

S Kensington Museum, SW7. Tel. 589 6371. April 8, 9, 10 "In the Beginning" sessions looking at the way in which some museum objects were made. They deal with wooden objects on April 8, gold and silver on April 9, wool and silk on April 10. For ages 11 and over, including adults. 10.30 each day. Admission free.

Provincial museums

Bedford: Cecil Higgins Art Gallery, Castle Close, Bedford. Tel. 0234 211222. April 8-11, 15-18. "Make a Game": Construct a board game (either an original one or a variation of a standard game). 14.30-16.00. Ages six or over. Admission free.

Birmingham: Birmingham Museums & Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square, Birmingham. Tel. 021-235 3890. Open events, where no tickets are required, include demonstrations of bone china egg making (April 9) and wood carving (April 14); ask also for the gallery quiz March 30, Sunday Craft Afternoon 14.00-16.00; displays of some 10 crafts. Events requiring tickets include a course on Indian embroidery and a talk on Indian village life and an Easter card-making session for under-fives. There are also activities at Aston Hall, Blakesley Hall, and the Birmingham Nature Centre. Details and bookings forms from Mrs Meredith, Museum Education Dept. No telephone bookings.

Cardiff: National Museum of Wales, tel 0222 26241. April 12, family expedition (first in a new series). Meet at the old school, Rhodriwynn, on the main road through the village (map ref SN 782440). Subjects include geology, natural history and industrial archaeology. Bring weatherproof clothes and shoes. No charge. There are informal holiday activities for children at the National Museum, the Industrial & Maritime Museum and the North Wales Quarrying Museum between April 9-11, 14-18, 10.00-13.00 and 14.00-16.30 each day. Ages 8-13. The Industrial Museum also has a special open day on April 5. (All these museums are closed on Good Friday.)

Derby: Derby City Museums & Art Gallery, Strad, Derby. Tel. 0332 31111/793. Competition booklet available throughout the holidays. April 9, 10 "Painting Pebbles", held at the Industrial Museum. 14.00-16.00 each day. Ages seven and over. Free tickets from the City Museum, Edinburgh.

Edinburgh: Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers St. Tel. 031 225 7534. Films: March 31, April 4. No tickets. Admission free. Quizzes also available (bring pencils and crayons). April 7-11 "Fitties" project. Young people will be invited to bring in relevant material and set up an exhibition. Ages 13-15. Introductory talk: March 26, 16.30.

Museum of Flight, East Forth Airfield, East Lothian. Tel. 031 225 7534 (Royal Scottish Museum). April 7, 8, 9 "Behind the Scenes" a conducted tour. Details from the Royal Scottish Museum.

Glasgow: Haggis Castle, 100 St Andrews Drive. Tel. 041 427 2725. April 4 and 5, 7-12. Activities every morning and afternoon for varying age groups. They include decorating eggs, pinhole cameras, calligraphy and finding out about herbs. 10.30 and 14.30. Bookings taken by phone or in person. No charge.

Liverpool: Merseyside County Museums, William Brown St. Tel. 051-207 0001. April 15, 16, 17. Halfday workshop sessions on rocks, minerals and fossils. 14.00-16.00 each day. Ages 8-14. Bring old clothes and 30p for material and refreshments. Numbers limited. Make prior application. April 10, 11, industrial archaeology two-day course, concentrating on the Liverpool & Manchester Railway and the Mersey Docks. Make prior application. £1.

Manchester: Museum, Oxford Road, Manchester. Tel. 061-273 2892. March 31-April 3, April 8-11, "Free for All", handling museum objects and working creatively from them. Also different films each day. There are two special exhibitions at the museum. "O Oiris Live for Ever" covering Egyptian funerary practices and gods, and "A Young Person's Guide to Geology". Workbooks are available for both.

Heaton Hall, Heaton Park, Prestwich, Manchester. Tel. 061 273 2892. March 31 & April 1, Holiday Workshop, quizzes, treasure trail and practical work. 10.00-12.30 each day. Numbers limited. Admission free. Information and tickets from Mr E. Williams. Tel. 061-236 9283.

Oxford: Museum of Oxford, St Aldates, Oxford. Tel. 0865 815559. April 9, 10, 11, "All Sewn Up". Holiday activities on samplers, needlework tools and modern embroidery. Linked with the temporary exhibition "Pins & Needles" on the history of sewing and embroidery. 14.00-16.00 each day. Ages 10 and over. Tel the museum to book.

Tyne & Wear: Dorman Museum, Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough. Gray Museum, Clarence Road, Hartlepool. Hancock Museum, Barras Bridge, Newcastle upon Tyne. Preston Hall Museum, Yarm Road, Stockton-on-Tees. Sunderland Museum, Borough Road, Sunderland. All these museums are participating in a pond survey over the Easter holidays. Children may collect recording sheets from the museums. Completed entries

will earn a free wildlife. Inquiries to Museums and Galleries Dept. Tel. 0632 26

Art galleries

Sheffield: Graves Art Gallery, Surrey Sheffield 1. Tel (Hay's Gall) 0742 734789. April 5, Eggs, gansa. Painting hard-boiled eggs in the East European tradition. 10.00-12.00. Admis free.

Maplin Art Gallery, We Park, Sheffield 10. Tel (8 Gallery) 0742 734789. Apr 11, Alice in Wonderland. Th day project for children, w ing on the Mad Hatter's Party. The Deck of Cs Tweedledum and Tweedle Dumpty. 11.15.00 each day. Ages seven over. Bring a packed and old clothes. Ring 8 Gallery to book. No charge.

Outings

The Ashmole Club's Easter day outings are: March 31, of the Oxford Mail & Time a walk round Osney; Apr visit to an archaeological sation laboratory; April talk on recent archaeology finds in China; April 12, ri Bristol to see Brunel's br and SS Great Britain, also churches and two muse Details of membership of historical societies for ch Mrs S. West, 42 Portland R Oxford.

Book bonanzas

Dundee Book Bonanza: Grand Opening is at 11.00 April 19 by John Gran Jackmor. There are f games and demonstrations most every day, and look for personal appearances Oink What a Mess, Wally Wallaby and The Knight. Dundee College of Edua Gardsye Rd, Dundee, April 26 (closed Sun). 10.00-17.00. Admission free. Lion & Unicorn Book 1 This year's theme is "A and Wonderful", and there magic sessions each day lunchtime.

St Matthias Community Ce King's Rd, Richmond, Su Tel (bookshop) 01-940 1 April 16-19. 10.00-17.30 day. Also a sing-song se Friday 19.00-20.15. Admi free.

The Puffin Exhibition: ing authors, a maze, a yourself vast crocodile, v ing a puffin, lots of com tions and something for very small.

Kensington Town Hall, Hor St, London W8. Tel (child books publicity) 01-551 1. April 8-19 (closed Sun) 1. 17.00 each day. Admission 50p (adults). (Puffin Club members we badges).

Federation of Children's Groups: Apart from the Dundee Book Bonanza (above), group holiday es include:

Aldershot group: Aprt story reading, Fleet Lib, Aldershot. 14.30. Brac group: April 1, "Book Songs", a sing-song, Braa Central Library 18.30. D group: March 27, lectur teenage reading by May Marshall, Park Farm Ce Allestree, Derby 19.30. E field group: April 10, pu (free tickets at library—s limited). Edinburgh gr March 28, Book Fair with f and competitions, Pencait Primary School, E Lothian 1 21.00. Harpenden gro March 29, "The Magic Books"—magical fancy d story telling, St Nicholas Harpenden 14.15. And o others.

Mrs James (Tel 024029) will be happy to answer que about the Federation in gen or its constituent groups.

Films

The start of the ICA Child Cinema Club is immensely come news. They pree differenz films each weeke The April programme is ca "Arabian Adventures".

Institute of Contemper Art, The Mall, London S1 Tel 01-920 3647. Sats & So usually at 15.00. Tickets £1.

Riding

If you never learnt a sport a child, it is very hard to ess facilities and the qualities so-called experts in that so on your child's behalf. So w I met Diana Tullen-Thompe at a Book Fair I asked her w the green parent should look in a riding school. She s "Look at the condition of horses."

Walking

If you are seeking informat about where you can walk, big or small private estates, estates managed by compau the regional secretaries of t Timber Growers' Associati will be your allies, and w know the dates of special op days in private woods a forests. In the North West ri Mr Merrett, Kendal 22592; the West Midlands & W Colonel Hadoke, Burwarto 20 in the East, Mr Coombes, Barham Broom 618; in the South East Mr Long, Woodhampt 3310; in the South and Spu West, Mr Wildash, Verwo 441; in South Wales and t Marches, Colonel Winstanle Canon Pryn 408.

There are other, deeper sig of hope. A newish, smoo organization called the Woo lands.

Its address is: Butebrook Harford, Ivybridge, Devon. Te 07554-2213.

Agnes Whitaka

Glenfiddich in Gaelic means Valley of the Deer.

A Bedtime Story.

Glenfiddich. An absorbing late-night drink. And if you're looking for something equally absorbing to read, try our label.

It's a story of tradition. Of craftsmanship handed down, generation after generation. A story of dedication to the point where this great Highland malt whisky is even bottled at the Distillery.

It's all there, distilled into about fifty words. Truth or legend? The subtle yet distinctive taste will answer all your questions.

Glenfiddich
Our label says it all.



COURT ROULAR

LAM PALACE

The Queen was by Lord Pendergast at the Service for the Earl (Her Majesty's Lord for Humberside) which in York Minster this

ince of Wales was by the Earl of Scar-

on was represented by Colonel Sir Richard Alkley, Bt (Her Lord-Lieutenant for

at the Memorial Service (Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Humberside) which in York Minster this

ce of Wales was represented by the

The Duke of Edinburgh at this evening at the for Members of the

of Whitehouse, Chiswell

Adrian Wray, K.M.S. was

USE

The Duke and Duchess

are represented by Sir

Worsley, Bt, at the

Service for the Earl of

which was held in York

morning.

Edward Wood was

attend the Funeral

of the Earl of Halifax

Illness.

ys today

Marshal Sir John Davis,

tanley Gomes, 79; Sir

drew, 63; Mr. W. R.

2; Mr. Malcolm Hoggar,

Sir Noel Murrells, 70;

n Steel, 80; Sir James

84; Professor H. B.

m bond winners

numbers in this weekly

he £100,000, £20,000 and

remuneration Savings Bond

announced on Saturday,

000, 27N 72435 (local

and), 17WB 56852 (Hamp-

5,000, TT 57675 (West

ham College

C. Greenwood has been

resident of the Council

ham College from Sep-

1980, to succeed Sir

raia, who retires on

his statutory age limit.

y's £20 note: The first £20 note to be issued since

it introduced its own paper currency in 1816, which

not circulation today. One of a set of four notes

£10, £20 and £50, featuring prominent Guernseymen of the

teenth and early nineteenth centuries, the £20 note

a portrait of Admiral Lord de Saumarez, who was in

command to Nelson at the Battle of the Nile in

1 defeated the French-Spanish fleet off Cadiz in 1801.

's basic colour is red.

Forthcoming marriage

Mr M. J. Hester and Miss S. Johnson

The engagement is announced

between Michael James, son of

Dr and Mrs M. J. Hester, of

Baytree House, Bures, Suffolk, and

Susan, only daughter of Mr and

Mrs F. G. Johnson, of The

Meadows, South Brent, Devon.

Marriages

Major A. C. Boyce, RA

and Miss A. M. Thompson

The marriage took place on

Saturday at the Church of St Mary

the Virgin, Shalford, near Guild-

ford, Surrey, between Major

Anthony Carlisle Boyce, eldest son

of Colonel H. C. Boyce, of Chard,

Somerset, and Sheila Lady Austin,

of Queen's Gate Place, London,

SW7, and Miss Annette Mary

Thompson, elder daughter of the

late Mr Denis Thompson and of

Mrs Betty Thompson, of Grange-

wood, Velmoad Road, Fleet,

Hampshire. The Rev K. Morgan

officiated.

The bride, who was given in

marriage by her uncle, Mr Thomas

Thompson, wore a Spanish style,

lace-trimmed gown and veil, and

held in place by a mantilla. She

was attended by Charlotte Thomp-

son, Mrs Victoria MacEachran,

Mrs Paul Ryan and Miss Jane

Thompson, and Miss Jane Thomp-

son, Mrs Victoria MacEachran,

Mrs Paul Ryan and Miss Jane

Thompson, and Miss Jane Thomp-

son, Mrs Victoria MacEachran,

Mrs Paul Ryan and Miss Jane

Thompson, and Miss Jane Thomp-

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Mrs Paul Ryan and Miss Jane

Thompson, and Miss Jane Thomp-

No man has gone to Canterbury with greater good will

By Clifford Longley

Religious Affairs Correspondent

In his own press comment on

the personality of the new

Archbishop of Canterbury was

the description of him as "a

radical conservative, with self-

effacing charisma".

Perhaps in a secular world

where fame almost invariably

comes with strong egotism,

religious leaders are bound to

seem enigmatic and contradi-

ctory figures. The Most Rev

Robert Runcie, who comes into

his temporal kingdom to-

morrow with the act of cere-

monial enthronement at

Canterbury, is apparently still

something of an enigmatic

figure, even to the

Church of England.

In his 30 years as a church-

man he has collected remarkably

few enemies, and those one

meets who attempt to express

their opposition quickly become

rather irrational. His milder

critics, who invariably like him

as a bit light-weight, which

may mean no more than that he

lacks a grave demeanour and

enjoys tickling people with a

gentle wit turn of phrase.

No man has gone to Lambeth

and Canterbury with more

public good will, and few

started off in the office of

primacy with his degree of

popular popularity. But none

before has been so familiar

with the ways of the mass

media: he was chairman of a

relatively obscure body called

the Central Religious Advisory

Committee for some years, and

that brought him into contact

with the professional world, in

casual world in the BBC,

independent television and

radio, and left him with a net-

work of enduring friendships.

He has not had to seek

publicity, rather to avoid

over-exposure, but enough has

come his way in the past few

months to establish him already

as a public figure. Even

Private Eye treats him as a

household name. In this

sense, therefore, he already

belongs to the public, and

the Church of England is now

for the first time led by a man

with more than half a claim to

the ephemeral but influential

status of a television celebrity.

The phenomenon of mass

appeal is one no church seems

really to understand, and yet it

has a significance that cannot

be ignored. It was manifestly

the last thing in the minds of

the conclave cardinals who

they elected Pope John Paul II,

but his capacity to handle

public occasions and communi-

cate effectively with huge

crowds and huge audiences,

whether in the flesh or by the

mass media, brought a spec-

tacular new element into the

papacy, one no theologian of

the Petrine ministry had

thought about.

The lesson of the Pope's suc-

cess is that there is an enor-

mous public appetite for a

certain style of spiritual lead-

ership, and if it gains an effective

response no better means is

likely to exist to bring the

secular world face to face with

religious teaching. It may be a

capricious world, one in which

"star-quality" rather than any

other talent or virtue deter-

mines the ability of the

churches to reach the people. It

part of that sense of comfort

comes from being able to accept

the complete autonomy of the

media rather than treating

them as a facility to be mani-

pulated or distrusted according

to temperament.

Tomorrow's enthronement is

itself a "media-event" in the

life of the nation and the

national church, and the Church

of England would make a great

mistake in regarding it as a

basically private affair with the

journalist or broadcaster a

barely tolerated intruder. By

protesting at the clash with

Budgetary, the point already

made is some distance from

the point of being at home

in the television age.

Previous archbishops have

not been comfortable in that

world: it is even said that

Lambeth Palace had no televi-

sion set until recently. And

part of that sense of comfort

comes from being able to accept

the complete autonomy of the

media rather than treating

them as a facility to be mani-

pulated or distrusted according

to temperament.

He was an Assistant Engineer

with Siemens Bros at Woolwich

from 1915 to 1919 and from

1919 to 1933 was at the

National Physical Laboratory as

a Scientific Officer in the Elec-

tricity Division. He was a Prin-

cipal Scientific Officer in the

Radio Division from 1933 to

1939, and from 1939 to 1947 was

Superintendent, Radio Division.

He was a member of various

scientific and technical com-

mittees of government depart-

ments as well as of outside insti-

tutions. He was chairman of the

Radio Section of the Institution

of Electrical Engineers in

1942-43 and was a Member of

the Institution of Civil Engi-

neers from 1933 to 1956 and again

from 1960 to 1961. He was Vice-

President from 1961 to 1964.

Smith-Rose was also a dele-

gate to many international

scientific conferences and

overseas and was President of

the International Scientific

Radio Union from 1960 to 1963.

He was chairman of the Study

Group V. International Radio

Consultative Committee from

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

* Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Carry price. d Interim payment passed. e Price at suspension. f Dividend and yield outside a special payment. g EW company. h Pre-merger figures. i Forecast earnings. j Capital distribution. k Ex rights. l Ex scrip or share swap. m Tax free. n Price adjusted for late dealings. Significant data.

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

A diplomatic approach to arms sales, page 20

wants in budget, 20

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Index 429.9
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ay's close

BRIEF

n plan
Scots
tronics
insion

Instrument Corporation to start the first £11m (\$5m) investment microchip in its plant in Glen. This will create 400 over the next two years.

statement will not only the turnover of the factory from \$30m to \$100m, but will also the production of one of the most in Europe.

factory has been cause of its technical in the past, and the General Instrument a strategic commitment as a subsidiary into the European

programme of expansion in April and the new one are expected to in a year.

d Savings sales
the new nineteenth onal Savings certificate to £245.7m in the highest initial any certificate. Estimated for the month show £534.8m and repay- £270.1m, bringing the total invested to just £6m.

locks deal
cheapest company has 40,000 contract to supply car maker. Nissan Products of Blyth, erland, signed the with Nissan, builders cars which head the import table in

ers profit
profits of motor com- and accessory makers only 19 per cent in years ended April last. In the second half of the year, profits actu- ally, according to an company comparisons. The analysis showed the largest company as the two with the port effort which had st profit margins and capital.

louncil to end
government is expected legislation for the up of the National in the next session. ment, he council was 5 years ago to oversee ports and its work has been by a levy on the which at times has more than 1m a year.

ark crisis plan
ocial Democratic min- istry of Mr Anker en, the Danish Prime is to announce next measures to shore up the sagging economy. ear half-yearly report that the current balance of the deficit will rise this 16,500m kroner (about from last year's 15,800m

more prime rate
Development Bank of e has raised its prime 11.25 per cent from 10.25 per cent effective from

NatWest set to challenge building societies for home loans market

By Adrienne Glessa

National Westminster, one of Britain's "Big Four" High Street banks, is ready to launch an aggressive challenge to the building societies' dominance of the home loans market.

Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, NatWest's chairman, in his annual statement out today, said the bank has plans to establish a home loans unit "for whose services we see a considerable demand".

So far, attempts to establish such a unit have been inhibited by the Government's controls on the expansion of bank lending, the "corset" Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, will make a statement on the future of the corset in his Budget speech on Wednesday, but the bank does not expect relaxation in the immediate future.

NatWest, which recorded pre-tax profits up from £30m to £44.1m, is "ready to launch" a home loans scheme "as soon as circumstances permit" according to Mr Leigh-Pemberton.

Mr Maurice Denton, general manager of domestic banking, said yesterday that the scheme could come into effect almost immediately if the corset restrictions were lifted. Otherwise, he said, it would be necessary to wait until the bank had significant amount available to lend under the corset restrictions.

Mr Denton confirmed that, unlike the present facilities offered by most of the clearing banks, the scheme would not be restricted to large borrowers in exceptional circumstances; nor would its total scope be restricted, as is the scheme operated by Lloyds Bank, which made £20m initially available for home loans.

He said it was unlikely that the bank would be trying for the business of the first-time borrower, partly because the building societies have the edge on rates.

But the minimum amount

loans could be in the region of £20,000 though this would depend on the level of house prices when the scheme is launched—and the bank would be aiming to lead for up to 20 years.

At first, the bank would be aiming to lend at a margin over base rate. Mr Denton said that it would aim to keep its rates more stable than base rate has been recently, "although we obviously don't want to be lending at a loss". However, Mr Jeffrey Benson, group chief executive, said that the bank was also toying with the idea of making loans available at a fixed rate, at least for part of the term.

Mr Benson said that the bank did not see itself as tackling the building societies head on. "We shall not be lending far and wide like the building societies," he said. However, "being the top end of the market" proved to be successful, and if funds were available, it was possible that the scheme might be extended.

Hitherto the clearing banks have largely refrained from tackling the home loans market, though there have been small scale schemes, like that being run by Lloyds Bank in January last year, and that run by Yorkshire Bank in cooperation with the National Coal Board for the purchase of miners' houses.

Another reason for the banks' reluctance to home loans business has been their conviction that the money deposited with them was, or ought to be, repayable on demand. However, recent ventures into medium-term lending, to both commercial borrowers and home improvers, have tended to undermine this conviction—particularly, as Mr Denton pointed out, as monthly repayments would provide the banks with a high degree of flexibility in the average term of their liabilities.

Financial Editor, page 20

'Think tank' backs British nuclear stations

By Nicholas Hirst and Bill Johnston

The Cabinet committee on energy, chaired by the Prime Minister, will today be recommended to go ahead with the first stage of the Government's programme of nuclear expansion and confirm the ordering of two second generation British-designed advanced gas cooled (AGC) nuclear power stations.

Under discussion will be a report by the Central Policy Review Staff, the Government's "think tank", to assess the effect on the nuclear component of cancelling or postponing work on either the Central Electricity Generating Board's station at Heysham or the South of Scotland Electricity Board's order for Torness.

Although its recommendation

is that the effects on the industry would be too dire to cancel or postpone, it is possible that the decision could go the other way.

Industry leaders have remained intensely worried over the outcome of the review staff deliberations, which have taken place against a background of a sharp reduction in forecast electricity demand by the generating board, which overspent its cash limit by £200m last year as a result of coal stockpiling in advance of a rise in consumption which never happened.

The demand for the review staff to report, before a Budget, created the impression that the AGCs were to be sacrificed as part of the cuts in the public sector borrowing requirement.

However, the electricity boards and the nuclear industry look to have put a strong enough case to swing the Cabinet in favour of allowing the programme to continue. The Department of Energy is anxious to go ahead with both Heysham and Torness. It will give the nuclear industry vital work between now and 1982 or 1983 when the first American-designed Pressurized Water Reactor (PWR) is to be ordered, and will detract from the possibility of an end to the bipartisan approach to nuclear power which the present Government has fostered.

Over the weekend, intense lobbying by the nuclear component suppliers has continued. Lord MacAlpine, an important figure in the nuclear industry and supporter of the Conserva-

tive Party, is believed to have visited the Prime Minister to present the views of the AGR manufacturers.

The AGR lobby feared that Mrs Thatcher preferred the PWR and would be sympathetic to ditching the British design on the excuse that it would not be needed to meet demand and would be a useful saving of government spending.

In a speech at the weekend Dr David Owen, Opposition energy spokesman, gave a clear hint that a continuation of the AGR programme would be necessary for Labour's support. Because of the lead times involved in power station building, a bipartisan policy is essential for success.

The generating board has been pressing for an increase

in its planned £187m cash limit for 1980-81 to enable it to continue with both the nuclear programme and other plans. At one time, it seemed the limit might be reduced, delaying Heysham station.

As it is, it is believed that the limit will be reaffirmed in the Budget and Heysham will be protected, unless the Cabinet decides otherwise. Consumption in Scotland is believed to be holding up stronger than in England and Wales, and if a cancellation were to be made Torness might still survive.

But the Department of Energy has been anxious for a programme announced only three months ago not to be tampered with on the strength of a mild winter and suspect projection of demand.

Regional grants for coal board to end

By Our Energy Correspondent

Regional grants to the National Coal Board, which totalled £50m in 1978-79, are to be ended by a government Bill held up so far because of the steel strike.

The Bill, to put the coal board's plans for a £600m expansion plan, in the final stages of preparation and will be placed before Parliament as soon as possible.

The effect of ending the regional grants will be to reduce sharply the level of NCB published profit. Initially, however, the NCB will not lose financially because the loss will be made up by a new system of "deficit grants".

It is felt that the number and size of grants paid to the coal board, which totalled £17.2m in 1978-79, produce an unbalanced picture which disguises the true state of the finances.

With productivity and output at last beginning to improve, the Government believes it is time the NCB moved more into the harsh world of commercial reality and with the large volume of extra work for times when coal was a more expen-

sive way of generating electricity than oil.

It is intended that the deficit grants will be phased out as the NCB's profitability improves. Being funds to meet a loss they will not be able to be used, as the regional grants were, to bolster published profits.

The coal Bill will also promote new schemes to assist miners to move from the high cost unprofitable pits, particularly in South Wales, to the newer high productivity profitable mines such as Selby and, if the go-ahead is given from the planning inquiry, the proposed pit at the Vale of Belvoir in north-east Leicestershire.

It is hoped that a system of deficit grants will enable the NCB's progress to be closely monitored. It will no longer be possible for it to rely on continuing subsidies from the state. But it may mean that the board will be pushed into closing older pits faster than the miners would like.

A key part of the government's plans for the coal industry will be the success of the policy to persuade miners to move. As it is designed the productivity pay scheme can give pay rises to miners in direct proportion to the total output of the NCB rising.

More curbs Proposed on secondary disruption

By Patricia Tisdall

The Engineering Employers' Federation (EEF) has joined other industry representatives in seeking stronger legal curbs on secondary industrial disruption in the Employment Bill.

In submissions made to the Government at the weekend, the EEF says the proposals to add an extra clause restricting secondary action could create confusion. Like the Confederation of British Industry, it is worried that the Department of Employment's description gives too many loopholes.

Mr Anthony Frodsham, the EEF's director general, says that his members think the Government's description should only be adopted if some other, more precise definition cannot be found.

As an alternative, the federation suggests that immunity from breach of contract should only be available where companies are actually continuing to handle goods involving the employer subject to the primary dispute.

It wants to protect those activities of suppliers and customers which have no connection with the employer. It also suggests that immunity should only be granted if the secondary action had the objective of affecting the employer in dispute and "was capable of achieving this effect".

In the longer term the EEF, which negotiates national agreements on behalf of its 6,500 member companies' two million employees, believes that all secondary industrial action should be banned. However it is prepared to support the much more limited restraints proposed for the time being, given the constraint of achieving an urgently needed measure of reform in the Employment Bill.

In its submission, the federation gave notice of its intention to seek much stronger measures in the Green Paper on the whole question of immunities.

The proposed new clause on secondary action is intended to change the law to uphold Lord Denning's rulings (later overruled in the House of Lords) in *Express Newspapers v. MacShane*, and *Dupont Steels* and others v. *Sirs* and others which involved independent steel producers. Clause 14 of the Employment Bill will limit secondary picketing, but the Government believed, in the light of the House of Lords judgments given after the Bill was published, that further legislative measures were needed to restrict secondary picketing and strikes.

The EEF has now joined other industry leaders, including the Institute of Directors and the Association of British Chambers of Commerce as well as the CBI, in making it clear that they regard the Employment Bill only as a stop-gap measure.

Tourism could benefit from low interest loans

By Derek Harris

Commercial Editor

Low-interest loans for tourism development are being discussed with the European Investment Bank which until now has been offering help mainly to British manufacturers and schemes like transport improvements.

The proposal has been put forward by regional boards which operate under the aegis of the English Tourist Board (ETB), but if government talks with the bank are successful the scheme is expected to benefit tourism throughout the United Kingdom.

The loans would carry an interest rate of around 15 per cent after allowing for currency adjustments. But it is not expected that such soft loans would be available to the larger companies like the big hotel chains. In England, for instance, the allocation of loans would also be under the surveillance of the ETB.

Improvement schemes aimed at developing tourism potential involving investments between about £50,000 and £2m are expected to be the main candidates for such loans. Such cheaply serviced investments could make a great difference to the rate of both new hotel building and refurbishing of existing hotels.

Another way of relieving the effects of high interest rates is also being considered by the ETB which may divert more of its grant aid cash in future entirely for this purpose.

But the ETB is still waiting for a decision on the level of its spending in this period has already been cut to just over £4m because of last November's public expenditure cuts and a further reduction is possible.

An appeal for greater investment in tourism has been made by Mr Michael Montague, chairman of the ETB. He said at the weekend: "We are only scratching the surface of the potential for tourism development in this country."

Tourism, a growth industry, would become more important as a source of income and jobs, but with competition growing fierce for tourists' areas abroad, Britain needed to plan the attractions, accommodation and facilities to bring more tourists to this country, Mr Montague added.

The Incorporated Society of British Advertisers (ISBA) has further criticised the companies for operating "unfair practices" by restricting airtime sales to force up prices, packaging together peak and off-peak time, and using discriminatory pricing in the preparation of the highly complex commercial television ratecards.

Mr Kenneth Miles, of the ISBA, said yesterday: "They play around with selling airtime in what is a one-sided way. The sale of airtime is not at all a transparent action. In each region there is one seller and a multitude of buyers."

The ISBA has called for the setting up of independent regional agents who would not have seats on the Channel Four management board and consequently could not influence programming.

It is thought that some of the amendments may come up for discussion when the Bill comes before the standing committee next week.

The possibility of such amendments had been expected from MPs who favour the advertising lobby, but it is believed that some of those tabled have come from a broader section of backbench opinion.

Call for new controls on textile imports

Lancashire textile leaders are to submit detailed proposals to the Government soon calling for an overall 10 per cent reduction in the value of imports. At present quotas allow for continued growth in textile imports from low cost countries.

The move was disclosed at the weekend by Mr Ernest Cummings, president of the British Textile Employers Association, and comes not long after a ministerial statement that the Government would resist pressure to introduce more strict controls on imports.

Mr Cummings believed the Government would soon be forced to recognize the extremely serious state to which the textile industry had deteriorated. He conceded that many people would consider the industry's demands unreasonable.

"Nevertheless, the industry must ask the Government to make selective cutbacks in the volume of imports of all textiles and clothing, cuts which in total will be equivalent to 10 per cent of the 1979 total imports from all sources."

"This new level should remain frozen and the cuts only restored in line with any future growth of the economy."

This is the first time that the industry has specified the scale of action it believes to be necessary if the present rapid contraction is to be halted.

Mr Cummings said: "We in the textile industry must point out that unless something special is done right away, there will be nothing left to flourish when the sunshine arrives."

His audience included Department of Industry officials and Mr Richard West, of the Retail Consortium, which has spoken out frequently against import controls.

Meanwhile the British Textile Confederation is preparing a policy review on world trade in textiles after 1981. This will aim at influencing government thinking in the run up to negotiations to produce a new framework for trade after the present Multi Fibre Arrangement expires.

Mr Cummings explained that present controls were often ineffectual and imprecise. "But the principle is not vague: we are entitled to be safeguarded against unfair trade."

Britain could win assembly line for the next European Airbus

By Arthur Reed

Air Correspondent

The assembly line for the next European airliner project could be in Britain rather than in France under plans being discussed by Airbus Industrie, the six-nation Aerospace consortium.

Airbus will decide what type of airliner to make next by the end of this year. If the choice is for a big, wide-bodied airliner, it will be put together in Toulouse, south-west France.

But if a smaller airliner with around 150 seats is selected, the job of assembling it from parts made in Europe, plus flight testing, will almost certainly be given to Britain.

This is because the assembly facilities at Toulouse are too stretched fulfilling orders for the A300 and A310 airliners, to be able to cope with a new aircraft.

A new assembly line would create many hundreds of new jobs in the British Aerospace industry. British Aerospace is already retooling itself as it prepares to increase production of wings for the A300 and A310 from the present three sets a month, to four a month next year, five a month in 1982, six a month in 1983, eight a month in 1984, and possibly ten a month by 1985.

Senior executives of British Aerospace will soon decide which of their factories will be expanded to cope with the large volume of extra work which this programme entails. One option



The A300 Airbus: five British factories make parts for the wings.

which they are looking at is a new factory on a "green field" site.

British Aerospace is a 20 per cent partner in Airbus Industrie. Five of its factories make parts for the wings and these are assembled at Chester from where they are shipped to Toulouse for joining up with other Airbus sections made in France, West Germany, Holland, Belgium and Spain.

Throughout Europe the num-

ber of people working on Airbus production will rise from the present 18,000 to 45,000 in 1985 as the production rate goes up.

The increased output is necessary to meet record sales, logged last year by the Airbus consortium. It set a sales target of 100 aircraft in 1979, but actually sold 132. Its order book now contains the names of 33 airlines, and is virtually full until 1985.

Too many problems yet for fixed monetary system to be established

The world must float along for a few more years

The foreign exchange market is gloomy and confused, with no apparent end to the stresses and strains so evident in recent years. A decade of turmoil has failed to produce visionary and practical plans for restoring any sense of order.

No major initiatives seem likely at the ministerial inter-ministerial meeting of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Hamburg in late April. The White House has played a constructive role since November, 1978, but now in this election year it is too concerned with other matters to pay much attention to the currency scene.

The prevailing IMF view—and the one most official monetary authorities share—might be realistic but is hardly encouraging. It asserts that there can be no hope of building a significantly surdier system so long as there is international price instability and chronic payments imbalances. Further, it stresses that it will take some years to unwind today's pressing destabilising economic difficulties, thus leaving no option other than several more years of floating exchange rates.

This could be viewed as a disastrous prospect. It can be argued that floating rates merely dampen world trade, enhance price instability and

that their continuation assures a still bleaker global economic future.

One could assert that a fixed rate system would impose a discipline on governments which regard floating rates as convenient because they are able to continually postpone taking tough anti-inflation and adjusting payments.

This approach has its intellectual attractions, but its pragmatic drawbacks. Why should governments that did not bow to the disciplines of the Bretton Woods system, but instead allowed it to collapse, now show sufficient determination to secure the survival of a new fixed rate system?

The answer is that back in the 1960s governments did not know just how disastrous floating rates could be. The experience of the 1970s has underscored the need to return to fixed rates.

But there is not much evidence that most finance ministers view floating rates as a disaster. Certainly there seems little IMF conviction that governments are ready yet to subject themselves to the external discipline that would be imposed by trying to establish fixed rates.

The last year has seen huge central bank intervention in the markets to smooth out sharp

fluctuations in floating rates. The intervention route simply would not work today as it did not in the early 1970s to maintain fixed rates.

The only means of securing fixed rates is far tougher anti-inflation policies in numerous key countries and far more stringent policies to eliminate huge payments imbalances. Such policies could, however, hurt the industrial economies.

This is one reason why so many monetary authorities are in no haste to move to a more stable currency system. But such a discussion is relevant now, not merely because of the continuing volatility of the exchange markets but because it is possible that President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing of France may have some new fixed rate plans up his sleeve. There are hints that he may propose new initiatives—perhaps the use of a European Monetary System approach on a much wider basis—at the economic summit conference of the leaders of Britain, France, West Germany, the United States, Canada, Japan and Italy in Venice in late June.

Such initiatives are unlikely to generate strong multilateral support. But the hard truth is that the global monetary system is in a mess and there



President Giscard: may have some new fixed rate plans.

is distinct need for action. President Giscard, it is to be hoped, may stimulate a fresh debate, which might not end with fixed rates—but could include useful steps in that direction.

Frank Vogl

YEOMAN INVESTMENT TRUST LIMITED

Results for the year ended 31st December, 1979	1979	1978
Revenue before taxation	£1,093,114	£800,744
Taxation	348,066	262,782
Revenue after taxation	£745,048	£537,962
Earnings per Share	12.15p	8.87p
Ordinary dividend per Share	10.75p	8.825p
Special dividend per Share	1.05p	
Net asset value per Share (fully diluted)	251.1p	240.8p

The net asset value increased by 4.3 per cent over the year. The ordinary dividend represents an increase of 24.6 per cent over the previous year, and an increase of 137.7 per cent over the rate paid five years ago—a period during which the Retail Price Index increased by 104.8 per cent.

The Directors are confident that the ordinary dividend will be at least maintained in 1980.

1980 is the 70th anniversary of the Company's incorporation and to mark this occasion a short history of the Company has been prepared and is available on request.

Twenty-five largest holdings	Market Value £	Market Value £
Company		
Shell Transport & Trading	720,065	167,050
British Petroleum	701,835	150,080
Prudential Corporation	422,677	174,000
Hanson Trust	384,380	172,563
B.A.T. Industries	306,000	168,300
Diploma Investments	252,000	132,800
Yorkshire Limited formerly (Sovereign & Brock)	250,000	141,127
Imperial Chemical Industries	236,550	148,000
Barclays Bank	209,702	147,590
Pantos	209,702	138,870
Standard Chartered Bank	200,531	137,550
General Electric (U.K.)	198,000	133,000

DIRECTORS: Desmond A. Reid (Chairman)
Maurice B. Baring
Nicholas W. Barry
Rodney A. Fellatt (Manager)

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells	Bank buys	Bank sells
£	2.85	1.98		
fr	28.40	28.90		
fr	71.25	67.75		
fr	2.62	2.55		
fr	13.25	12.70		
fr	8.50	8.50		
fr	9.85	9.42		
DM	4.28	4.06		
DM	83.00	85.00		
DM	11.35	10.25		
DM	1.13	1.09		
DM	195.00	187.00		
DM	565.00	540.00		
DM	4.68	4.45		

Notes for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Bank of England. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Stock appreciation

John H. M. Samuel
P. G. Kaufman, in his published letter (20/3), cited Marks and Spencer as one of a number of retailers whose share price has risen since the start of the year. However, the share price of Marks and Spencer has fallen since the start of the year.

With all eyes in the market focused on the Budget on Wednesday, economic indicators are fairly thin on the ground. The only figures of any consequence arrive before the Budget with the retail sales from the Department of Trade today and the unemployment figures from the Department of Employment tomorrow.

re of British Aerospace

quadrant Leader R. MBE, RAF (Retd)

Government is proposing to nationalise British Aerospace, perhaps, is natural. The Conservative Party has voted for a Conservative Government.

It cannot argue that position in its sense, but as an (in fact, as a) of British Aerospace, it is likely to be affected. The application of the Bill to British Aerospace is a matter of concern to me, as a shareholder in British Aerospace.

Yours faithfully,
R. BEDFORD,
31 Manor Way,
Wrea Green,
Preston.

Clothing industry's problems

From Mr B. J. Clayman

Sir, I agree with some of the points raised by Mr Alec Smith of the National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers, in his letter on March 11. However, he fails to mention those seasonal factors, weather and fashion, which create problems for the clothing industry.

These problems have been around for many years, and are exacerbated by the industry's inability to moderate production in line with demand. This produces a glut of merchandise in an already soft market place, with predictable results.

The opportunity for employers and the union to get together on this problem have been available since the late 1940s. However, all that has been done has been to develop a series of wages councils for the clothing industry, which have done and are doing more damage to the industry than any of the other internal and external factors that affect it.

Yours faithfully,
B. J. CLAYMAN,
Director, (Clothing Production) Ltd,
Kingsgate Works,
The Pinnacles,
Harlow, Essex, CM19 5AS.
March 17.

Standardization of video equipment

From Mr W. H. Fulton

Sir, I would be grateful if I could record a slight, but very significant, amendment to the article in *The Times* Business section of March 14, based on an interview with Mr Aldo Morita, chairman of Sony Corporation, Japan.

It could be construed from the article that Sony is currently conducting negotiations on standardization of video cassette recorders with another unnamed manufacturer of home video equipment.

On Mr Morita's behalf, I would like to state that the negotiations to which he referred were held some years ago and that they were inconclusive. No such negotiations are currently in hand or planned.

Yours faithfully,
W. H. FULTON,
Managing Director,
Sony (UK) Ltd,
Pyrene House,
Surrey Cross,
Surrey on Thames,
Middlessex,
March 18.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Autumn sales help Church footwear

By our Financial Staff

As expected, second-half results of the footwear company Church & Company were not as good as those recorded during the first half of the year to end-December 1979, though the company still achieved a 17 per cent improvement to leave profits for the year some 20 per cent better at a record £3.11m pre-tax.

With successful autumn sales helping to counteract the adverse effects of higher prices and the increase in VAT, turnover in fact rose by more in the second half of the year than in the first six months, and ended 22 per cent higher overall, at £29.32m.

Gundry Bridport's profits dip during the first half

Despite an outstanding performance from the subsidiary supplying civil and military air freight nets, profits of the netting and cordage manufacturing company Gundry Bridport fell during the six months to the end of January.

However, the company points out that profits—£309,000 pre-tax, as against £324,000 in the corresponding period—were close to budget, and that some reduction was to be expected because the comparable total was swollen by early shipments.

Nevertheless, the performance of the operating subsidiaries was, the directors say, uneven, with the fishery side, in particular, suffering from low demand. Over the longer term they believe that there are further benefits to come from splitting the operating

subsidiaries up into identifiable profit centres.

But in the short-term, they consider it unwise to predict the full year's profits, or to draw conclusions from the six months' performance. Last year Gundry Bridport, which normally does better in the second six months of the year, made £763,000 pre-tax—a marginal reduction on the previous year's £781,000.

Part of the money required for the current programme of heavy capital spending has been realized from a significant reduction in stock levels in the bulk netting subsidiary, which released £200,000.

The interim dividend has been held at 0.95p net per ordinary share, and the directors are leaving consideration of the final until the full year's results are known.

Mr T. D. B. Harrison has been appointed sales director of Formwood.

Mr David P. Leung will be joining Henderson Crosthwaite & Co on April 28. Mr Phillip W. A. Henderson will be leaving the partnership on April 25 to join Dalgety Ltd.

Prof John Treasure has joined the board of Mills and Allen as a non-executive director.

Mr George Plucknett has been elected president of the National Home Improvement Council and Mr Michael Basilow has been elected its chairman.

Mr Clayton A. Sweeney has been appointed a director of Wilkinson Match.

Business appointments

New director at Lonrho

Sir Peter Youens has been appointed a non-executive director of Lonrho.

Mr A. E. Singer has become director and chairman of The Carr Exchange. Mr R. E. Goodfellow has resigned as chairman.

Mr C. R. Roberts has been made a director of Group Investors.

Mr George Plucknett has been elected president of the National Home Improvement Council and Mr Michael Basilow has been elected its chairman.

Mr Clayton A. Sweeney has been appointed a director of Wilkinson Match.

This week

Insurance companies dominated proceedings this week with full-year figures from the Prudential Corporation on Wednesday, and Eagle Star Holdings and Alexander Howden Group on Thursday.

Other companies of general interest reporting include distillers Arthur Bell and food and drink industries the Appleyard Group of Companies and Lucas Industries.

With all eyes in the market focused on the Budget on Wednesday, economic indicators are fairly thin on the ground. The only figures of any consequence arrive before the Budget with the retail sales from the Department of Trade today and the unemployment figures from the Department of Employment tomorrow.

However, on the equity front Prudential issues its annual statement on Budget day. Analysts are predicting heavier losses on the underwriting side as a direct result of bad weather and one or two disasters during last year.

Mr Peter Martin of Capel Cure Myers expects the group's net surplus to rise from £41.2m to about £46.2m, helped by an improvement on investment income.

This should have risen from £27m to £31m, a rise of 13 per cent, but will have been offset to an extent by heavier losses in its underwriting business. This might have risen to about £10m compared with last year's £4.2m.

Mr Martin has worked his net surplus out on a tax charge of about 30 per cent, but this will vary depending on how large the underwriting losses are.

Life investment income will have experienced a small rise at about £8m compared with £7.8m last time.

A dividend of 15p gross, which would be a rise of 1.7p over the corresponding period, appears likely.

Prospects for this year are slightly brighter with the absence so far of bad weather and as yet no major disasters. Therefore, a figure of £55.6m net surplus would appear to be on the cards.

Interim profits from Arthur Bell on Wednesday will hold no surprises after the June budget last year which meant that most of the pre-Budget buying was finished by the start of the new financial year.

Analysts are going for a moderate increase in pretax profits for the six months to January 31, with most estimates ranging from £9m to £10m against last year's figure of £8.6m.

Prospects for the current year remain uncertain until after the Chancellor's speech on Wednesday.

Most observers are now resigning themselves to an

Insurance companies hold the spotlight



Mr Raymond Miquel, chairman of the Appleyard Group.



Mr Ian Appleyard, chairman of the Appleyard Group.

increase in duty with the average figure of 80p a bottle being quoted. This would do little for the group which is heavily reliant on the home market. Full-year profits of £194m, compared with £16.8m last year, would seem to be on target.

Finally on Wednesday, full-year profits from the Appleyard Group of Companies are presented and are likely to repeat the pattern established at the halfway stage when profits fell from £127m to £98,000.

Analysts believe the group will have made up little of the leeway from the first half with profits this time dropping from £1.9m to about £1.4m.

The problems of the first half, arising mainly from the troubles at Britis Leyland, will have been compounded in the second half by the rise in interest rates.

Nevertheless, the group's Ford franchise continues to prosper. Last year the group's non-Leyland activities accounted for two-thirds of group profit and are expected to show a further increase this time.

Still in the automotive industry, interim profits from Lucas Industries on Thursday will reflect the scars inflicted by the engineering strike last year. This should account for a loss of about £20m, a figure much higher than that which arose from the Ford strike during the corresponding period.

As a result, great profits have been downgraded from the previous year's £24m to about £18m-£19m. On a brighter note demand for the group's diesel cars, particularly on the Continent, remains strong, although the strength of sterling and pressure on margins remain depressing factors.

Despite this, last year's dividend of 3.6p gross should be maintained with expectations for the present year ranging between £52m and £70m, compared with £73m last time.

TODAY—Interims:—C. H. Beazer (Hdgs), Br. Car

Auctions, Chambers and Fergus, A. and J. Mucklow Grp., Scottish Cities Inv. Trst. Finals:—W. Canning, William Collins & Sons (Hdgs), Harvey Leisure, G. F. Lovell, H. and J. Quick Grp.

TOMORROW—Interims:—Fairview Estates, Spirax Sarco Engineering, Standard Ind. Grp. Finals:—Bambors Stores, Bemrose Corp., Brent Chemicals Ltd., Dufay Biomass, Equity and Law Life Assurance, Expanded Metal, Carlton Engineering, London and Scottish Marine Oil, Redcliff and Colman, Ricardo Consulting Engineers, Stag Furnishings, and News-papers, Wolstenholme Kings.

WEDNESDAY—Interims:—A. B. Electronics, Arthur Bell and Sons, Harrison's Malaysian Estates, MTD (Mangula) (amended), Sirdar. Finals:—Appleyard Grp., R. Cartwright, Legal and General, Prudential Corp., Robur, Slough Estates, George Willis and Sons (Hdgs).

THURSDAY—Interims:—Lake and Elliot, Scottish Metropolitan Property. Finals:—Badulph Tea, Baziloni Hdgs, Charles Early and Marriott (Winney), L. McErickson, F. C. Tinsdale, and Home Counties. Newspapers, Charles Hurst, Istoback Johnson, Macallan-Glenlivet and Bernard Matthews.

Michael Clark

MANAGEMENT

Taking the risk out of innovation

Manufacturing companies only lip service to product development guidelines just by the British Institute of Management. Yet few companies have shown sustained interest in product development without either radical changes to existing products or the addition of new

guidelines are based on which has been carried out by Dr Charles Parker, retired as director responsible for research and development at Ferodo in 1977, he is research fellow at Ash Management College. He is directing a Council for the Management of Innovation.

As a result of discussions with executives and staff in over 50 companies, Dr Parker concludes that while manufacturing companies that new products survive, few seriously innovate. They are too busy trying to be the best at what they are doing.

Dr Parker's theory, he says, is that the success of a product is largely determined by the quality of its design. The design of a product is largely determined by the quality of its design.

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A company's group headquarters, because of its relative detachment, is most likely to be aware of this sequence and can advise its subsidiaries when growth is needed to overcome these constraints. Indeed, they can exert a crucial influence by demonstrating concern for long-term growth, and by giving sympathetic consideration to relevant requests for revenue and capital.

If company directors followed Dr Parker's guidelines they would obtain a forecast of the expected financial benefit, cost of achievement and the time needed for completion for each new idea.

The most commonly used financial method of evaluating new products is, he says, the discounted cash-flow approach which estimates cash in-flow and out-flow from which is calculated the net yield. However, this method must be used with discretion of conditions of high risk and high inflation.

Once a forecast is obtained it is then up to the directors to select the best ideas and to incorporate them in a board strategy which is in line with the group corporate plan.

The problem is that initial estimates are often inaccurate. Dr Parker found that the estimates are commonly as much as three times too high, while both costs and duration exceed early forecasts by a factor of two. Once work begins, however, the estimates improve with time and become reasonably accurate half-way through the life of the project.

To counteract the consequences of this he recommends that new projects should be evaluated after the design studies are completed. Once under way, their status should be examined regularly and a deterioration not allowed to continue.

Attention should be paid to changes which are innovative as well as to those which are incremental. Dr Parker said that the difference became clear to him only after he had reviewed the highlights of 15 years operation of a research and development laboratory.

When historic data was correlated with development results for withholding them provided no justification.

Post Office v Oxford City Council: Court of Appeal held that garage premises constructed or adapted to supply the requirements of members of the public who sought to buy motor cars, spare parts or fuel, and to obtain repairs or servicing, were not a factory within the meaning of the Rating (Exemption) Regulations 1974.

records it showed that innovative changes had a positive effect in reducing costs while evolutionary developments merely produced a plateau. Before the review he said, he had believed that evolutionary development work was probably as efficacious as innovation.

"Innovation is based on inspiration drawn from two centuries of scientific progress, and tends to start at the technical level and proceed to commercial exploitation. Evolution on the other hand gives greater heed to painstaking analysis and synthesis and normally starts with technology, although it may need to involve science once the obvious solutions have been exhausted", he said.

It is important to use foresight in planning new products. Action must be taken which will extend beyond the normal five-year plan of corporate planning.

Every company division and all management levels should be involved. The aim should be to embark first upon low cost innovative strategies to build up profits and reach a level that will allow resources to be directed to high risk, high reward endeavours.

One distinguishing feature which Dr Parker found in successful companies was that the senior boards publish their future plans overtly and clearly spell out their policy on the development of new products. In this way, he says, awareness of the executives' thinking permeates the organization and increases the likelihood of success.

Among the guidelines for innovation in research and development is that companies should search for benefits from technology transfer and should periodically re-assess earlier unsuccessful attempts to introduce novel techniques.

"Guidelines for Product Innovation" by R. C. Parker is available from BSA Publications Department, 10, Parker Street, London WC2. Price £2 to members and £3 to others including postage.

Consequential loss: a new guide has been published by Phoenix Assurance, for insurance brokers and others concerned with consequential loss insurance, explaining the basics and providing some ideas on arranging cover. Available from offices of Phoenix Assurance.

Bill Johnstone looks at a manufacturing company in Brighton whose board members and workers are all under 19 years old

Young Enterprise Craft of Brighton is a company with a difference. Not only are the members of its workforce all under 19 years old, but the entire venture has been launched with £100 worth of capital raised by selling 25p shares to its employees.

The company is one of the Young Enterprise projects designed specifically to assist young people in gaining experience in business.

The idea took root in the United States in the 1920s and spread to Britain in the 1940s in the individual states in which it had been practised that in 1941 a national campaign was launched called Junior Achievement.

In 1959 while on a trip to America Mr Walter H. Salmon, a London merchant banker, was so impressed by the results of the scheme that he tried to bring the idea to Britain.

Brighton has had a number of attempts at using the scheme but the present company, designed for legal reasons must be put into liquidation after only seven months has been one of the most successful projects to date.

In effect every aspect of company life is experienced by the members of the group. Before its formation four months ago virtually none of the group knew each other but within weeks, in response to advertisements placed by Young Enterprise and their sponsors, two dozen people came together as the embryo of the venture. From the beginning all the stages of setting up a company and running it had to be experienced.

The first of those stages in deciding who would do what within the company, what product they could produce within their limited means and what



Board meeting of Young Enterprise Craft.

Youth gets down to business

market would they be trying to corner.

The reminiscences of the directors and the workers are not dissimilar to those expected from the lips of hardened campaigners who had been running some multinational corporation. Although the social element has not been divorced from the exercise, all the activities are performed with real seriousness.

Those early days gave the group their first taste of company policies and industrial relations. Steven Mooney, the managing director, a 19-year-old apprentice who works for Kearney and Trecker Marwin, one of the sponsors, remembers: "We had to stand up in front of everyone if we were running for a particular office on the board and justify how we were best suited for the job."

There was no secret ballot—all the board members were chosen on a simple show of hands. Marketing, production, accounting and administration are all represented at board level and all directors holding those positions have to be voted into power.

Four months ago, after selecting its board, Young Enterprise Craft was ready to get started. However since the company only comes together for two hours each week and all the employees have commitments to school or college, the type of product they were able to select was strictly limited. Their own market research confirmed that simple products for the tourist market of the south coast would be ideal.

They designed and built small ornamental rocking chairs from clothes pegs which although selling well were to present the board with its first personnel problems.

All the "problems" such as investment in the company are scaled up but are no less real. Even the division of management and shop floor is a reality and one which is readily admitted by the board in sentiments professed by every company manager in the world is "Do you know that the workers on the assembly line actually think we do nothing when we have a board meeting?" one said.

These meetings are held every fortnight and to allow as many as possible to experience decision-making at that level, the board is changed in composition after about three months.

Sessions are conducted with professionalism and seriousness where any suggestion that would identify the venture as artificial is never aired.

Production figures for the fortnight together with those targets achieved by the sales force are discussed in depth as is the cash flow for the company. Even debates on the type of peg to be used in the

product involve all the directors who, like their counterparts in professional life, balance the arguments of availability, cost and quality of the pegs purchased against the cost of production and its possible recovery in the wholesale price of the product.

What do the members get out of the venture and what has motivated them to join? Obviously the social aspect has greater prominence now that the employees know each other a little more but again no more than one would expect from relationships formed in a normal company environment.

All two dozen are either pupils of Cardinal Newman, Hove Park or Blatchington Schools or apprentices working in local industry. The three apprentices, Stephen Mooney, John McBride and John Downward are all employees of Kearney and Trecker Marwin and members of the board of Young Enterprise Craft. All admit to joining the company to learn about business and to add to their curriculum vitae when applying for a job.

To ensure that experience is made available, the company has a steering committee made up of local educational and business interests while the Young Enterprise provide all the documentation and procedure manuals which give outlines for the directors to run the company.

The sponsor provides management, training, premises for the new company to operate from and the finance for the documentation. After seven months when the company goes into liquidation, the employees sit an exam to assess how much they have learned. Then the exercise begins again with a new batch of young recruits eager to find out at first hand the traumas of management and business.

A subtle blend of science and management

The treatment of environmental issues within a company is to be examined at a one-day conference at the Royal Society in London in April. The conference, which is being organised by the Operational Research Society of Birmingham, will explore how this type of research can contribute to the production and utilization of energy.

Operational research (OR), according to Dr Roy Stanton, a spokesman for the society, involves "the application of the methods of science to the complex problems arising in the direction and management of large systems, materials and money in industry, business, government and defence, health and welfare."

The society, also is looking into the effects of money supply on economics and the implications for business management; what use accountants make of OR; and the use of OR in energy conservation.

Fifty per cent of the Times Top 100 companies do not have their own OR units and the OR Society is planning a promotional campaign to encourage the setting up of new OR groups and revive those that are ailing.

The society has recently completed a "diagnosis of the current state of OR in the United Kingdom" and it has appointed Dr John Rayward as supervisor of its "drive on the engineering industries."

According to Mr Rick Whitman, a member of the society who works for the National Westminster Bank in Bishops Cleeve, the market for OR is greater among accountants than bankers, because bankers are a closer, tighter knit group, many of whom are already using OR techniques, while accountants have to cope with the more diversified and widespread problems, throughout industry, for which OR solutions are still being found.

Operational research techniques enable managements (and governments) to exercise choice between the various options and energy mixes open to them. For example, the development of a fully informed energy policy, and of the most efficient techniques to analyse and control it, is the society's belief, a matter in which companies and governments are becoming increasingly involved.

Bob Crew

FINANCIAL NEWS

Freight

Argentina is Russia's only source of grain

Russia's grain buying from Argentina has weakened considerably the full impact that President Carter's sales ban might have had, came under the spotlight last week as Soviet chartering figured prominently in the dry cargo market.

The United States Department of Agriculture also released some estimates of the extent of these purchases.

Based on Japanese sources, the United States estimates that as of March 17 Argentina has sold some 2.5 million tonnes of grain and soyabean since the ban was initiated in January.

Prior to this action, Russia had purchased 4.5 million tonnes of grain and soyabean, making a full total of seven million tonnes for this season, as against the previous season's sales which were in the region of 2.6 million tonnes.

With most grain producers supporting the Carter ban, Argentina has become the only source of grain for Russia to fill the gap in its needs. The United States department puts Argentina's total exportable volume of grain at eight million tonnes which, if all taken by the Soviet Union, will still leave a big deficit. However, it is believed that further purchases are being made in the resale market.

To cater for the Argentine shipments, Soviet charterers were active chartering tonnage mainly for transatlantic round trips. While full details were as yet difficult to come by, brokers indicated that at least 10 vessels were booked.

All but three of these were in the 35 to 46,000 ton range at rates of between \$11,600 and \$12,500 a day. The vessels were generally on the basis for a north or South American round trip with delivery in the Mediterranean or European continent and re-delivery in the Cape Passero (Sicily)-Skaw (Denmark) range.

This Soviet activity combined with other time trip chartering and period fixing—largely for between one and two years—overshadowed voyage business. Grain fixing was quiet, although rates remained as firm as ever. North Atlantic bookings included \$16.90 and \$17 being paid for carriers of 72,500 tons from the United States Gulf to the Antwerp/Hamburg range.

Shipments to Japan secured \$27.5 to \$27.55 for vessels from 30 to 51,000 tons with April loading in the United States Gulf or North Pacific coast.

Because of the strength of the market, charterers were becoming more reluctant to reveal future details.

In the oil trade the picture is much bleaker and here all the signs of a depressed market are displayed. Demand for Indonesian crude continued to be the one strong bulwark down with substantial surplus tonnage, including some 30 vics, keeping rates at rock bottom level. Some tankers are reported to have reduced crews on board under fixed rate resistance among owners to the appalling rates in increasing.

A few owners are understood to be refusing to accept business for vics at below world-scale 45 whereas the current going rate is worldwide 30. By all accounts they could be in for a long wait.

Another indicator of the poor times is that inquiries are being made about time chartering vics for periods of up to two years.

David Robinson

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	17%
Barclays Bank	17%
BCCI Bank	17%
Consolidated Creds	17%
C. Hoare & Co.	17%
Lloyds Bank	17%
London Mercantile	17%
Midland Bank	17%
Nat Westminster	17%
Royal Bank	17%
TSB	17%
Williams and Glyn's	17%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 15% p.a. to £25,000 15% p.a. over £25,000 15% p.a.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

Capitalisation	Company	1st Price	2nd Price	3rd Price	4th Price	5th Price	P.F.
3,873	Airsprung Group	67	-2	6.7	10.0		*4.0
800	Armstrong & Rhodes	32	-2	3.8	11.9		*2.1
7,485	Bardon Hill	245	+7	13.8	5.6		*7.2
830	County Cars Pref	83	-1	15.3	18.4		
6,489	Deborah Ord	94	-5	5.0	5.3		10.3
3,824	Frank Horsell	102	+2	7.9	7.7		6.3
14,158	Frederick Parker	98	-1	12.8	13.1		*4.5
2,236	George Blair	109	+1	5.2	7.5		*4.1
1,725	Jackman Group	116	+1	7.2	7.2		10.2
16,010	James Burrough	255	-5	31.3	12.3		*8.1
2,601	Robert Jenkins	338	-1	14.3	6.6		*3.0
3,419	Twillock Ord	16	-3	0.8	5.2		*3.7
2,075	Twillock 12% ULS	76	-1	12.0	15.8		
6,007	Unilock Holdings	46	-2	2.6	5.6		9.8
11,622	Walker Alexander	92	+2	4.4	4.7		6.1
4,247	W. S. Yeates	182	-1	11.5	6.3		7.1

*Accounts prepared under provision of SSAP15.

'Overall 1980 will be a tough year for the rubber sector'

Demand for rubber during 1980 will be hard hit by the recession according to the Economist Intelligence Unit's latest issue of Rubber Trends.

The report says that latest figures indicate that the expected slowdown in demand is now taking place. Figures for the third quarter of 1979 show that world consumption rose by only 2.5 per cent in this period, compared with a growth in demand of more than 6 per cent in the first half of 1979.

Figures for the fourth quarter are not yet available, but it is believed that this downward trend has been accelerating and a growth of only 2 per cent may have been recorded in the October to December period.

Tyre sales have been badly hit in most Western countries, particularly in the United States and the United Kingdom, says the report. New car sales have been very disappointing in the United States and the latest indicators show that new registrations during 1980 may decline by between 15 and 20 per cent. In addition, with the rising price of oil, the average mileage per car has been falling and it is believed that the demand for replacement tyres has been, and will be, declining significantly.

The EIU's forecasts for 1980 have been reduced and it is now expected that rubber demand will show minimal growth during the current year.

The first half is expected to be particularly difficult with growth in demand of only 0.5 per cent. A small recovery is expected in the second half of the year but, "overall, 1980 will be a tough year for the rubber sector and particularly for synthetic producers".

The report says that the level of stocks is likely to increase and overcapacity in the synthetic sector will become quite pronounced.

In addition, stocks of synthetics (which were already quite high at the end of 1979) will increase further and, in view of the uncertain level of demand, production of synthetics will be limited.

The price of synthetic rubber will undoubtedly continue to rise, it is stated, since the latest cost increases for naphtha and other raw materials have not yet been taken into account.

Due to the depressed level of demand, synthetic rubber producers will have to be careful to limit their increases and, as in 1979, will raise their prices by gradual stages. It is believed that currently their margins are fairly tight and in order to absorb the current cost rises, synthetic producers are likely to put up their prices by at least 25 per cent over the next 12 months.

The report notes that considerable speculation has been going on in the natural rubber sector, partly because of political and economic uncertainties. In recent weeks, the price of RSS 1 has risen sharply and but, due to the poor level of actual demand for rubber, these price levels have not been maintained.

It is believed that on economic grounds, a price of between 70p and 75p per kilo can be justified in the short term. Over the longer term, a rise of about 20p per kilo is quite possible. Normally the price of natural rubber moves fairly closely in line with synthetics and, if cost pressures

cause the price of synthetic rubber to move ahead, RSS 1 is likely to follow suit.

"Naturally, these forecasts have to be treated with some caution because of the various conflicting factors affecting the rubber sector. For one thing, overall demand is weakening considerably, but this is counterbalanced by political and psychological influences which are, obviously, difficult to forecast at this stage."

On the marked decline in the level of demand for tyre products, the report says that the latest figures for the United States indicate the shipments of tyres for passenger cars fell by 16 per cent in September and 11 per cent in October compared to 1978, while tyres for trucks and buses also declined by an average of 15 per cent during this period.

The only area which held up reasonably well was the tractor tyre sector, but this is a relatively small part of the business and cannot be compared to the importance of passenger car tyre shipments.

The fall in car tyre demand in the United Kingdom was also significant. In the third quarter of 1979 the number of units sold in this sector amounted to 5.8 million. Other sectors, such as commercial vehicles and tractors, held up quite well but it is believed that sales of tyres for commercial vehicles have eased off during the remainder of 1979.

In other countries the picture for tyre products was mixed. It is understood that tyre demand in Japan and Canada has been reasonably satisfactory. In France and West Germany the growth rate has fallen significantly, but demand was still somewhat higher than in 1978.

Wallace Jackson
Commodities Editor

Commodities

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Euromarkets

Another factor behind the comparatively buoyant tone of the market early in the week was the lack of new issue activity. This support disappeared in mid-week with the announcement of a GWPP \$1m floating rate note issue for Citicorp Overseas Finance Corporation and expectations that the Kingdom of Sweden will come to the market this week with a mammoth \$500m fixed-

interest "tap" issue.

Citicorp, which is leading managing its own issue, has been its reputation as an innovator: the notes are believed to be the first ever offered without a redemption date. Noteholders will have the option of redeeming after 30 months and thereafter at six-monthly intervals. However, Citicorp will have the option of calling the notes after six years at a price which declines to par in 1990 from 102 in 1986. Interest over the first 30 months will be paid at the London Interbank offered rate (LIBOR) for three-month Eurodollar deposits and thereafter will convert to the bid rate.

Primary market specialists expressed interest in the Citicorp issue and, indeed, it will probably be successful—if only for the high quality of the borrower—although one London banker described it as "a better deal for the borrower than the lender".

Salomon Brothers and S. G. Warburg and joint partners together Sweden's \$500m operation. Euromarket sources said one tranche of \$125m of 31-year bonds is likely to be floated this week, the remainder being issued before the end of the year at the borrower's option.

Wall Street

President Carter may be scoring heavily in the primaries, but his latest anti-inflation measures won no votes on Wall Street last week.

Shares slid nervously and at times sharply lower and by Friday's close the Dow Jones Industrial Average had fallen to its lowest level for two years.

Analysts are now anxiously waiting to see if the 780 resistance level will hold, as it has done in all other recent shake-outs. If it does not drop to 750 it is widely forecast.

The market which began last Monday at 811.63, fell 26.54 points on the week to 785.12, and apart from bargain-hunting by institutions which brought a mild technical rally on Tuesday, the trend was steadily downwards.

It is the sixth week in a row that prices have fallen, the decline having started on February 15, when the Federal Reserve raised its discount rate to 13 per cent. Since then, the Dow has tumbled over 100 points.

Indicators more broadly based than the blue chip Dow have also slipped back and the American Stock Exchange last Monday had its largest one-day fall since its index was instituted seven years ago.

Behind the selling, which came from small investors rather than the big institutions, is the fear that the President's plans to trim government spending for 1981 and the Federal Reserve bank's moves to make loans harder to come by and more expensive will probably plunge industry into a recession, both deeper and more prolonged than had hitherto been expected.

But they will do little to curb inflation. And looking further ahead, investors suspect that there are few policy options left to boost industry out of the forthcoming slump, which will not also worsen inflation. This of course makes the long-term outlook gloomy.

On the positive side, the trading volume fell to between 30 and 40 million shares a day, which is low. Analysts say this shows that buyers are holding off, and putting their money on deposit until they are more sure of events. But there is no panic selling.

More worrying to the Administration and to brokerage houses was the continued

decline of the bond market, which even further lowered the government's credit rating.

The sectors to suffer were the pace-setters in January rally—energy, chemicals and to a lesser extent, defence stocks.

Mobile Oil for example touched 68 1/2 on Tuesday, then fell to 68 1/4, and IBM, which tumbled to a year low of 56 1/2 on per though denied rumours, was about to float a bond issue.

Among the few blue chips that improved were Eastman up 1 1/2 to 48 1/2, and Polar up 1 1/2 to 21 1/2. Both were reacting to the fall in cost of silver, the major raw material, photography.

Anthony H.

Mining

Nobody, to my knowledge, has eaten a diamond and found it nourishing. Gemstones are the epitome of a luxury product: beautiful, decorative, expensive, and useless.

De Beers is probably the largest company in the world whose fortunes are founded on such a commodity. Since people can manage without diamonds, De Beers's profits suffer when prices and interest rates are high.

That is essentially why the company's most recent profit pretax profits of R1,106m (£614m) represent the first fall since 1974. It is also why sales by the Central Selling Organisation are likely to be sluggish in the current financial year.

But De Beers is a highly unusual company for other reasons as well. The CSO, which was set up by Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, Mr. Harry Oppenheimer's father, and which is effectively controlled by De Beers, unashamedly regulates the market for diamonds.

Mr. Harry Oppenheimer argues that controlling the market by fixing the prices of about 90 per cent of all diamonds sold wholesale is in the interests of everyone involved. To the extent that many producers, including the Soviet Union, sell stones through the CSO his case appears to command widespread acceptance.

The second obvious point about De Beers is that it mines so many of the stones marketed through the CSO. If one takes world diamond production to be between 17m and 18m carats a year, the CSO sells about 38m carats. De Beers digs out about 12m carats a year, 7.5m from South Africa. So the company provides, from its various sources, a quarter of all CSO stones.

Equally important, De Beers is the only diamond producer in the world able to finance large stocks for a significant period. The latest consolidated balance sheet shows assets of R2,441m (£1,364m). Diamond stocks are worth R400m, some 60 per cent more than in 1978, and net current assets amount to R787m, about R100m less than in the previous year.

The real secret of De Beers's power in the market is therefore not its production or control of the CSO—though both are important—but the company's underlying financial strength.

That strength is indisputable from the connexion with Anglo American: Anglo holds just over 30 per cent of De Beers, while De Beers returns the compliment with about 33 per cent of Anglo.

Resources of this magnitude—Anglo's assets were R2,583m at the last count—are a most effective deterrent to anybody misbehaving in the diamond market. As the speculators discovered in 1977, when De Beers

leaned on them they have difficulty staying upright.

Financial strength also means that De Beers can invest heavily in maintaining its dominance. The plan is to raise production capacity from the present 12m carats a year to 19m in 1983.

Central to the company's programme in Botswana, where the existing Orapa mine and the Jwaneng mine under development will contribute a good part of the proposed increase.

Zaire is different, however. President Mobutu's move is not the most solid world, and a change of could prove less accessible to South African interests. To the West generally.

If the biggest diamond producer—though not necessarily the biggest producer of stones—were to ally smaller producers in perhaps for simply political poses, they could pose a threat to the CSO.

Further afield, we have the enigma of Australia. In the industry it is that the era Australian mining is extended, and is extensive.

Much hinges on the size and quantity of the But one fact is clear: De has virtually no stakes in Australian developments. The Australians wisely refuse to commit themselves to CSO at this stage, it is De Beers's historic judgment.

Some of these factors are reflected in the 9.5 per cent shares currently off London. An increase in yield could be interpreted as that one or more of risks is nearer realisation.

In De Beers's cartel occur—and I ought to be size that there is no indication of that happening yet—the party would still be a force to be reckoned with.

After all, diamonds are hard to get, but the eradication of vanity is improbable.

Analysts anxious about how far shares can slide

Reserve raised its discount rate to 13 per cent. Since then, the Dow has tumbled over 100 points.

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Trying to guess the course of gold

Once again, the gold market is keeping every one guessing. Some people guess better than others, but the market is mainly leaving clients to make up their own minds.

After the fluctuations of the past fortnight, which left the price at \$525 an ounce on Friday, it would also be wise of me to keep my mouth shut.

But I want to hazard a brief assessment of the position as it stands. First, the fundamental adjustment of gold to other prices seems to have been achieved. Since, however, some of the political reasons for the excitement earlier in the year have subsided rather than disappeared—Afghanistan, the hostages in Iran, the outcome of the American presidential election, the position of the trading rate—there is still a lot of speculation.

High interest rates, especially in the United States, have weakened the investment as distinct

Analysts anxious about how far shares can slide

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But they will do little to curb inflation. And looking further ahead, investors suspect that there are few policy options left

"In 1979 the Group continued to make good progress in its development as a leading world-wide banking organisation."

Robert Leigh-Pemberton, Chairman.

"The strengthening of our position as a leading international bank has continued to be at the heart of our strategy and in this context we welcome the management and staff of the National Bank of North America to the Group. However, the greater part of our earnings is still derived from the Group's UK operations. Interest rates were a dominant factor in 1979 but income from other sources continues to increase. This is a key objective, for there is every sign that costs will continue to rise and we must remain profitable at interest rate levels considerably lower than those which obtain today."

International In the ten years since we defined the strategy to develop National Westminster as a diversified international banking organisation, not only has the contribution from international activities increased significantly but total international assets have grown from £1 billion to over £12 billion. There was an 18% increase in earnings from international business in 1979; this sector produced over £100 million towards Group profits – a significant milestone – despite high levels of liquidity in the international markets which created increased competition. The substantially increased volume of advances and an active foreign exchange market were both factors in the improved performance.

Immediate steps have been taken to ensure the integration of National Bank of North America into our Group strategy. A significant early development has been the acquisition of a further 16 branches to complement the existing network of 141 branches.

United Kingdom There was a significant increase in volume during the year, both in our banking activities and in our other operations in the UK. We have improved our range of services, with special attention to the needs of small businesses, by introducing schemes in conjunction with the Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas (CoSIRA) and the Welsh Development Agency (WDA). We have also introduced a scheme to provide venture capital through a new subsidiary, Growth Options Limited.

Within the limitations imposed by Government restrictions on the growth of the money supply, we have given priority to customers requiring finance to increase exports and to reduce imports.

The main UK subsidiaries all expanded their operations. Lombard North Central increased its total new business by 40% over 1978; Isle of Man and Ulster Banks achieved good profit growth; County Bank significantly expanded all its services, particularly in the international field.

Social Responsibility Our social contribution as a Group rests primarily on the effective performance of our role as a major financial institution. As instances, we have sustained many businesses through a difficult year, and have financed a significant part of the North Sea oil development.

We sponsored a major new campaign entitled 'Action Against Crime', launched in association with Age Concern, which is intended to help elderly people avoid the dangers of violence and fraud, and to assist those who unfortunately become victims.

Through our project known as 'National Westminster Enterprises', we made over 100 experienced staff available for extended periods to a wide variety of charities and other organisations, to assist them mainly in their administration; the direct cost to the Bank was in excess of £1 million. The number of staff on secondment will increase substantially in 1980 in response to the challenge to the private sector represented by public expenditure cuts. We shall also increase substantially our expenditure on sponsorship and support of community projects.

Salient Points from the Chairman's Statement to Shareholders

Pre-tax profits expressed on an historic cost basis show an increase of 44% over 1978 at £441.5 million. Adjusted on a current cost accounting basis this reduces to £285 million.

Development necessitates a sound capital base and, whilst retained profits form an important element in maintaining the Group's capital structure, steps have again been taken during the year to supplement capital resources through additional loan issues to keep them in line with the requirements of our expanding operations.

Removal of dividend constraints has enabled us to declare an increase in distribution which goes some way to restoring the loss in purchasing power which our shareholders have had to bear since restrictions were introduced in 1971.

A slower growth in advances and current account balances is expected in 1980 because of the current tight monetary policy.

There is a strong demand for our services and we have an excellent basis on which to build. Our resources will be directed to seek out new opportunities and to strengthen and widen our relationships with existing customers.

Our Business Development Loan Scheme now extends to terms of up to ten years and amounts up to £100,000. We now operate a fixed rate lending scheme for larger amounts and for cases where more flexible repayment arrangements are necessary.

Figures taken from the Group's Accounts 1979

Ordinary share capital	£234 million
Reserves	£1,306 million
Current, deposit and other accounts	£26,542 million
Advances	£18,115 million
Group profit after allocation to staff profit-sharing	£441 million
Tax	£112 million
Retained profit	£289 million

Copies of the Report and Accounts, which include the Chairman's Statement, may be obtained from the Secretary's Office, National Westminster Bank Limited, 41 Lombury, London EC2P 2BP.

Working with Export Credits Guarantee Department the Bank has financed, and given bonds in connection with, a substantial number of large export contracts.

Abolition of exchange controls has presented many new opportunities and the Group has the necessary skills to advise both companies and individuals on these points.

The second decade of National Westminster Group, which we are now entering, will bring significant technological advances. We shall take advantage of developments to ensure the most economical use of our computer centres and to automate many activities in our operations.

The first phase of an on-line computer operation for the NBNA branch network will be completed in 1980 using National Westminster's experience and expertise.

We have continued to obtain lead management roles in syndicated currency loans. County Bank has enhanced its reputation by participation in currency lending and in Eurobond management.

Further examples of our social responsibility programmes are Project Respond, a community award scheme for secondary schools, and Matching Support, under which members of staff can obtain funds for charities and community organisations in which they are actively and voluntarily involved.

National Westminster Bank Group

One of the world's leading banks

the Linguist
an interest in
of language.
be for linguists
eek, Persian,
may also be
offering a non-
than Arabic.
or candidates,
only offering
one of the
fence of
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appropriate
is provided by
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or an

appropriate degree in 1980 may also
apply.
Appointment will normally be to the
Assistant Linguist Specialist grade, but
successful candidates with at least 3
years' relevant experience may be
appointed to the Linguist Specialist grade.
SALARY (under review) : Linguist
Specialist £4,765 - £8,150; Assistant
Linguist Specialist £4,200 - £5,700.
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**University of Durham
RESEARCH ASSISTANT
IN CONTEMPORARY
LITERATURE**

A Applications for the position of Research Assistant in Contemporary Literature are invited from graduates from as soon as possible to the latest possible date. The University of Durham Centre for Cultural Studies is headed by Dr. P. H. Clarke, and the post will involve data collection and analysis, and will include the use of computers. The Research Assistant may be employed on a full or part-time basis, and a higher degree which would include a research project would be an advantage.

LECTURE

In the Centre for Cultural Studies, the University of Durham, is seeking a full-time Lecturer in English Literature. The successful candidate should have a first-class honours degree in English Literature, and should have a minimum of five years' experience in the teaching of English Literature to students. The successful candidate will be responsible for the teaching of English Literature to students, and will also be responsible for the supervision of research students. The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the development of the Centre for Cultural Studies, and to participate in its activities. The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the development of the University of Durham, and to participate in its activities. The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the development of the University of Durham, and to participate in its activities.

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each the Registrar, Stevens
University of Essex, Wivenhoe
Park, Colchester CO4 3SQ,
from whom further particulars
may be obtained by 13 April
1960.

